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A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Ten shillings a year in advance, post free to any part of the world, including a copy of *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary* next published. Single copy, 4d.; Summer or Winter Number, 1s.; *Diary*, 3s. 6d. Postal orders and cheques to be crossed "Martin's Bank (Limited)."

As an Official Organ

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is supplied by subscription to the whole of the members of EIGHTEEN CHEMISTS' SOCIETIES in the British Empire, including Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and the West Indies. Besides, its paid subscription circulation at home and to all parts of the civilised world is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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Circulars and Price-lists

sent by post are apt to return again to the sender, or to find their way, unopened, into the waste-paper basket. Manufacturers and wholesalers should avoid this sort of thing by entrusting their distribution to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. Our subscription-register is the surest way to buyers of all classes of goods connected with the drug and chemical trades. It is kept up to date by corrections almost daily; it represents the best buyers in the trade of the British Empire and foreign countries. The Winter Issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, on January 27, 1906, is reserved for insets, and the Publisher will be glad to give inquirers printed particulars about the getting-up of insets, charges for distribution, etc. Those who decide soonest to have an inset in the Winter Issue will have the best chance of getting the pick of the positions.

Summary.

The subjoined paragraphs give the "gist" of the more important matters in this issue, with the object of showing at a glance what has happened during the week. See also "Contents" in the first column.

SOME particulars about the Chemists' and Druggists' Diary for 1906 will be found on p. 846.

MR. E. J. PARRY discusses the quality of commercial cream of tartar and the methods of analysis (p. 838).

MR. JOHN MORLEY's appearance as a prescription-writer has tempted artist and poet to find a remedy for drug-trade ailments (p. 832).

NATAL has obtained the privilege of manufacturing spirituous medicines and some other products from duty-free Colonial spirit (p. 835).

"XRAYSER" deals this week with "Cosmopolite's" revelations respecting the Minor examination and with Mr. J. M. Richards's reminiscences (p. 833).

A REFRESHING EXPOSURE by a correspondent of the fallacy that a hard-working and miscellaneous apprenticeship in pharmacy is bad appears on p. 847.

MESSRS. W. J. BUSH & Co., LTD., have won an action in the High Court which they took against a confectioner whom they supplied with fruit-syrups (p. 843).

WE again caution our readers against the man who is now calling himself "T. C. Smith," who is seeking a situation as chemist's manager. For particulars see p. 838.

A CORRESPONDENT advocates that unqualified assistants who sell poisons should be punished by imprisonment. His startling reasons for this are given in a letter on p. 847.

THE "BOURNEMOUTH FORMULARY" has reappeared at Torquay as the "Torquay Formulary" without permission of, or acknowledgment to, the Bournemouth Association (p. 835).

THE "SALT" given to competitors in our Students' Corner last month was a mixture of potassium chromate and sulphate and sodium arsenate. The prizes are won by Messrs. C. F. Hudson and C. N. Chapman. Another salt will be sent out next week (p. 818).

OUR OBITUARY this week contains particulars of the late Mr. William Gilmour, a well-known and honoured Scotch pharmacist; Mr. Gilbert, one of the proprietors of Bile Beans, and Mr. Touzeau Saunders, whose name is associated with certain toilet-preparations (p. 830).

A RATHER interesting Pharmacy Act case was tried by the New Ross magistrates, the defendant being a publican who sold a proprietary preparation of corrosive sublimate. He was fined, after a great deal of discussion about the propriety of two summonses for one sale (p. 843).

SILICON RESEARCHES (one leading up to SiN), condensation of mercury cyanide with ketones, the microscopic method of determining molecular weight, green compounds of cobalt, and the rusting of iron were the subjects discussed at the Chemical Society's meeting reported on p. 829.

MESSRS. F. CALVERT & Co. have obtained an injunction against Madame Jalland Wright, Nottingham, restraining her from selling an imitation of their tooth-powder (p. 843). A local action against the same lady for selling "medicine" and pills said to be fraudulent was dismissed (p. 822).

THE Patent-medicine Vendors' and Drug-stores Association annual meeting has been held at Leeds; satisfactory progress was reported, and it was decided to pay the Secretary a salary. Mr. W. Huntrods, the President, delivered an amusing and characteristic address, which we epitomise in the report printed in our Coloured Supplement.

PROFESSOR C. R. MARSHALL, in an inaugural address delivered to the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, discussed from the medical practitioner's point of view the revision of pharmacopœias, his thoughts arising from the new U.S.P. The Professor (whose portrait we give) said many good things which should set pharmacists a thinking. See the report on p. 827.

THE duty on medicines imported into Russia is equal to about 1s. 4d. per lb., the bottles and wrappers being counted as medicine. This is to be almost doubled next year, and in consequence of this and other prohibitive restrictions on the importation of medicines appeal is being made through several foreign Governments for reconsideration of the matter. We ask those interested to read and act upon the particulars given on p. 834.

ALTHOUGH business is flat, changes are numerous. They include an advance of 2d. in English refined camphor, and higher prices for sulphate of copper, permanganate of potash, nitrate of soda, nitrate of silver, and cassia oil. Antimony, fennugreek, castor oil, and spermaceti are firmer. Sulphate of ammonia, cassia lignea and citronella oil are easier; while cod-liver oil, lycopodium, turpentine, and nux vomica are lower. The price of iodine has not yet been fixed (p. 850).

Corner for Students.

CONDUCTED BY LEONARD DOBBIN, PH.D.

Students, please note. All communications should be addressed to the Editor of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

All communications and reports must bear the names and addresses of the writers, not necessarily for publication. The reports of those who ignore this rule are liable not to be dealt with.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS.

A MIXTURE of not more than three salts will form the subject of the next exercise in qualitative analysis. The mixture will comprise acids and inorganic bases occurring in the British Pharmacopœia, and is to be submitted to a thorough systematic examination, all its constituents are to be detected, and proof is to be given that the substances detected are the only constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture of salts (accompanied by a *stamped and addressed envelope*, not a stamp merely) will be received up to Tuesday, November 28, and the samples will be posted on the following day.

Students' reports will be received up to Saturday, December 9. Each report should contain a concise account of the work done, and should include a list of the constituents detected. In this list any substance regarded as an accidental impurity should be distinguished from the essential constituents of the salts composing the mixture.

SPECIAL NOTE.—The analysis announced above forms the second exercise in the analytical tournament mentioned in several preceding issues. The usual monthly first and second prizes in this series of analyses will be awarded only to apprentices or assistants who are preparing for the Qualifying examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain or of Ireland, which fact *must be attested on their reports*. Students who adopt a *nom de plume* must adhere to it throughout the tournament.

REPORTS.

The powder distributed to students on October 25 contained six parts of potassium sulphate, one part of potassium chromate, and one part of hydrous sodium arsenate. The calculated composition of such a mixture is:

K	...	...	...	...	38.7
Na	...	...	...	...	1.8
SO ₄	...	...	...	...	41.3
CrO ₃	...	...	...	...	7.5
AsO ₃	...	...	...	...	5.6
H	...	...	...	...	0.1
H ₂ O	...	...	...	...	5.0
					100.0

Samples of the powder were distributed to eighty-eight students, and sixty reports were sent in for examination. All of our correspondents succeeded in detecting the potassium. The failures in the detection of the other constituents of the powder were: Sodium, 8; sulphuric radical, 2; chromic radical, 2; arsenic radical, 37. The two students who failed to recognise the chromic radical detected the presence of chromium. Three students who detected arsenium failed to recognise that it was present as an arsenate. Twenty-four students failed to observe the evolution of water when the powder was heated in a dry test-tube.

In arranging the composition of this month's exercise it was intended that, while otherwise exceedingly simple, it should present one distinct analytical difficulty or trap for the unwary. The difficulty consisted in recognising the presence of the arsenate, since certain important reactions

of the arsenic radical were more or less completely masked by the presence of the chromate. That it proved a veritable trap for the unwary is but too clearly evidenced by the fact that more than 60 per cent. of our correspondents failed to detect the arsenate.

When hydrochloric acid was added to the original aqueous solution of the powder (a yellow liquid which, curiously enough, some correspondents described as alkaline, others as neutral, and others still as acid to test-papers), the colour of the solution changed from yellow to orange. This change was duly noted by many students (although others did not report it, while some recorded "No result"), and was correctly attributed to the presence of a chromate. When the resulting orange liquid was treated with hydrogen sulphide, a precipitate of sulphur was formed almost immediately, and the solution became green. At this point many students fell into the trap, which they ought to have been careful to avoid. Knowing that hydrogen sulphide interacts with a solution of an anhydrochromate, in presence of free acid, to yield a chromic salt and a precipitate of sulphur, they simply attributed to this cause the precipitation which they observed, and did not take any steps either to ascertain whether the precipitate consisted wholly of sulphur, unmixed with arsenious sulphide, or to secure the complete reduction of any arsenate that might be present by treating the heated solution exhaustively with hydrogen sulphide. This type of error has been referred to repeatedly in this column as one of the commonest causes of failure in analytical work. A certain result is obtained and a certain constituent is known to be present which could produce this result: then, although other possible constituents might produce similar or nearly similar results, the constituent which is known to be present is assumed to be the sole cause of the observed effect, and no other contributing cause is sought for. A point worthy of mention in connection with the precipitate of sulphur formed at this stage is that quite a number of students described it in some such terms as "a deposit of sulphur, but no precipitate." Now, the deposited sulphur was itself a precipitate, and the statement that there was "no precipitate," when there was a very obvious deposition of sulphur, was, to say the least, liable to be misunderstood. The gradual change in colour which the precipitate underwent as the reduction of the arsenate progressed—from the nearly white sulphur which first appeared, to the bright yellow mixture of sulphur and arsenious sulphide which was obtained finally—was highly characteristic of the presence of an arsenate, and was easily interpreted by most of those who observed it.

When the acid radicals were being sought for, the chromate again interfered to mask the presence of the arsenate—at least, in so far as the reaction with silver nitrate was concerned. The dark-red silver chromate to a great extent concealed the chocolate-brown silver arsenate, and unless some other test was applied (magnesia mixture, for example), it was easy to overlook the arsenate at this stage also.

Several students who found that the acidulated solution of the original powder gave a precipitate of sulphur on treatment with hydrogen sulphide, avoided this precipitation by employing a fresh portion of the aqueous solution and adding to it ammonium chloride and ammonia, then ammonium hydrosulphide, ammonium carbonate, etc. By so doing they made the missing of the arsenate almost a certainty. Others mistook the arsenate for a phosphate, on account of the behaviour of the solution with ammonium molybdate, and treated the powder by the method used in dealing with insoluble phosphates—the results being of a rather mixed character.

It is most desirable that all students who have entered on the tournament competition should continue their work upon the exercises which are to follow. It is much too early for any of our correspondents to feel discouraged, and to give up in consequence. While those who persevere to the close, without missing a single exercise, occasionally form but a comparatively small proportion of those who begin, there is little doubt that the final results of the tournament competitions would sometimes be different from what they are if a number of competitors did not lose heart too easily and abandon the contest. The great object of this "Corner" is to enable learners to see for themselves where they have gone wrong, as it is only in this way that they can become proficient. Too many think they are proficient because they have never realised the errors of their ways.

PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis has been awarded to

C. F. HUDSON, c/o J. Watt, 10 Meadowwell Terrace, Shettleston, Glasgow.

The Second Prize has been awarded to

C. N. CHAPMAN, 11 New Street, Grimsby.

First Prize.—Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half-a-guinea may be taken as a first prize.

Second Prize.—Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as a second prize.

The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher naming the book or books they select.

MARKS AWARDED FOR ANALYSES.

1. Correspondents who are unqualified.

C. F. Hudson (1st Prize ... 97	A. D. N. 76
C. N. Chapman (2nd Prize) 96	C. G. 78
Craven 95	Squill 78
Phenazone 95	C. W. Roberts 77
L. C. W. 94	Argon 77
Thomas Pickering ... 93	Fairfax 77
Valerian 93	Ragde 77
J. E. B. 92	A. C. T. 75
Meta 92	Virgil 75
The Apothecary 90	Opium 74
Robertus 89	Mac 73
A. Colbeck 88	T. A. Canham 72
Pluto 88	Festina Lente 71
C. C. D. D. 87	Cuniculus 70
Esruf 87	Radix 70
L. C. B. 86	T. M. M. 69
V. L. B. 83	Geraniol 67
Chloroform 82	Salamander 65
Dublin 82	Ingredere 63
A. F. W. 81	Thule 62
Bedeman 79	E. W. Carver 56
J. A. T. 79	Pharsalia 51

2. Correspondents who are qualified, or who have not indicated that they are unqualified.

Adoxa 80	M. B. Jack 93
Aduus ad Solem 57	T. P. Noble 72
Chemicus 94	Onyx 72
Copaiba 90	Ooma 80
Cosine 73	P. W. 77
Edulcine 52	R. W. B. 81
Esperanto 80	Uncertain 66
W. H. Fletcher 56	Volta 88

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CRAYEN.—Sodium hydrogen tartrate is to be preferred to tartaric acid as a test for potassium. Silver arsenate is not brick-red, but chocolate-brown. You no doubt had a mixture of silver arsenate and silver chromate in the brick-red precipitate you describe.

THOMAS PICKERING.—The chromate, as well as the arsenate, was concerned in the precipitation of sulphur during the treatment with hydrogen sulphide. From the composition of the powder per cent. you will see that the sulphuric radical present was a great deal more than a trace.

VALERIAN.—Far too many of your tests were applied to the original solution. Thus, it was not good analytical practice to add to the original solution cobalt chloride and sodium nitrite

as a test for potassium. Systematic separations must be carried out if the best analytical results are to be attained.

J. E. B.—Your report is too slender to do full justice to your work. Thus, although you detected the presence both of arsenium and of chromium, you do not fully establish that these elements were present as arsenate and chromate respectively.

META.—There is something far wrong with the tests for organic acids which you describe. For instance, you say that silver nitrate gave no precipitate with a neutral solution of the powder, whereas in our hands it gave a precipitate of silver arsenate and silver chromate.

ROBERTUS.—We failed to obtain any evidence of the presence of ammonium compounds. Perhaps a trace of free ammonia in the air of the room was responsible for the change in colour of the red-litmus paper.

A. COLBECK.—You mention arsenious acid among the acids found, although you suppose sodium arsenate to have been present. Please add your address to any future reports.

PLUTO.—The failure of ammonium carbonate to yield a precipitate in presence of ammonium chloride does not prove the absence of magnesium. Read the last sentence of the reply to Thomas Pickering.

C. C. D. D.—We are unable to explain why you failed to obtain a precipitate of chromic hydroxide on adding ammonia in slight excess to the filtrate from hydrogen sulphide, after boiling off the excess of this gas.

L. C. B.—The test by means of magnesia-mixture did not prove an arsenate to be present, as you had not proved the absence of a phosphate. You ought to have given some particulars of the application of Marsh's test, as the mere mention of a test by name does not convey any assurance that the test was properly applied.

V. B. L.—The acidulated solution of the powder ought to have been kept hot during the passing of the hydrogen sulphide to ensure the reduction of arsenate if present. Note that a mixture of sulphur and arsenious sulphide would pass entirely into volatile products when sufficiently strongly heated in the air.

CHLOROFORM.—The precipitate which you observed on adding ferric chloride to the aqueous solution of the powder was due to the arsenate present, not to the chromate.

DUBLIN.—It is sufficient to write the word "unqualified" in the top left corner of your reports.

BEDESMAN.—You appear to be in some confusion regarding a "continuous spectrum." In such a spectrum it would be impossible to distinguish coloured bands due to potassium, sodium, barium, etc.

A. D. N.—Had a phosphate really been present, the powder would have required special analytical treatment on that account, but you do not seem to be aware of this fact. The reaction you attributed to a phosphate was due to the arsenate.

SQUILL.—We imagine "the purple solution in Group IV." was due to some chromium held in solution by excess of ammonia. Chromic hydroxide is distinctly soluble in ammonia. "The blue-white precipitate" with silver nitrate in presence of nitric acid was no doubt an opalescence due to a trace of hydrochloric acid left behind in an insufficiently washed test-tube. It was quite useless to boil the powder with sodium carbonate in preparing a solution to be tested for acid radicals; you say you filtered the mixture so obtained, but there should not have been any precipitate to remove by filtration.

ARGON.—Note that a precipitate with barium chloride insoluble in boiling concentrated hydrochloric acid does not prove the presence of a sulphate. The precipitate may simply consist of barium chloride—soluble in water but "insoluble in boiling concentrated hydrochloric acid."

RAGDE.—Read last sentence of the reply to "Squill."

OPTUM and T. A. CANHAM.—The reactions which you attributed to aluminium were due to the presence of chromic salt obtained from the chromate, or to impurity in the sodium hydroxide you employed.

MAC.—The chromate interacted with the potassium iodide and sulphuric acid which you added, liberating iodine; so that the test for a nitrate was inapplicable without previous reduction of the chromate. We failed to obtain discharge of the colour of potassium permanganate by the aqueous solution of the powder. Contrary to your experience, we found that both ferric chloride and ammonium molybdate gave distinct reactions with the above-mentioned aqueous solution. No doubt the bead you noticed on the platinum wire simply consisted of the original salts of the mixture, fused and then re-solidified.

T. M. M.—We found that ferric chloride gave quite a distinct precipitate with a portion of the original solution which had been acidulated with acetic acid. We are at a loss to understand your minute circumstantial account of reactions indicating the presence of a citrate, as we were unable to reproduce the results you describe.

SALAMANDER.—We failed to obtain any reaction resembling that due to a chlorate when we heated the powder with sulphuric acid.

THULE.—Sulphurous anhydride is not a product of the interaction of a chromate with hot concentrated sulphuric acid: oxygen is the gas liberated during the action.

E. W. CARVER.—As the aqueous solution of the powder was yellow prior to the addition of chlorinated soda and merely remained yellow after that addition, the latter fact can scarcely be adduced as evidence of the presence of a chromate. See also the reply to "Salamander."

PHARSALIA.—The precipitate you mistook for calcium oxalate consisted of calcium sulphate. In the known presence of the sulphuric radical you ought to have employed solution of calcium sulphate—not calcium chloride—as a test for oxalate.

ADOXA.—Either your solution of ammonium molybdate is not in working order, or your mode of employing it as a test for arsenate and phosphate requires revision.

CHEMICUS.—You describe the barium-nitrate precipitate with the original aqueous solution as white: it should have been yellow from the presence of barium chromate if you added barium nitrate in excess.

COPAIBA.—It is a sulphide, not a sulphite, that is formed by fusing a sulphate with sodium carbonate on charcoal.

COSINE.—You omitted—perhaps inadvertently—to mention the addition of hydrogen peroxide in the perchromic-acid test for a chromate. See also the reply to "Argon."

EDULCINE.—The chlorine evolved when the powder was heated with concentrated hydrochloric acid was due to the presence of the chromate, not to that of a peroxide.

W. H. FLETCHER.—The powder did not contain sensible traces of a chloride; but even if traces had been present, heating with manganese dioxide and sulphuric acid, as ordinarily carried out, would not have served as a delicate test to prove this.

T. P. NOBLE.—You are under a misapprehension regarding the conversion of a chromate into a chromic salt. This conversion is not brought about by the action of ammonium hydrosulphide.

ONYX.—Strong (*i.e.*, concentrated) nitric acid should not be used to try whether a precipitate produced by barium chloride dissolves. The insolubility of barium chloride and nitrate in concentrated nitric acid is very liable to give rise to errors. Compare the reply to "Argon."

OOMA.—With some little difficulty, both metallic and oxide films were obtainable from the powder, in small quantity; and these had the properties of those given by arsenium compounds.

R. W. B.—Read the last sentence of the reply to "Squill."

UNCERTAIN.—You ought to have given the evidence from which you concluded that a sulphate was present: the mere statement that you found a sulphate is not sufficient.

New Books.

These notes do not necessarily exclude subsequent reviews of the works. Any of these books printed in Great Britain can be supplied, at the published price, to readers of this journal on application (with remittance) to the Publisher of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Bain, W., and Edgcombe, Wilfrid. *Physiology and Therapeutics of the Harrogate Waters, Baths, and Climate, applied to treatment of Chronic Disease.* 8½×5½. Pp. 312. 7s. 6d. net. (Longmans.)

Burnet, J. *Nursing of Sick Children.* Cr. 8vo. Pp. 72, limp. 1s. net. (Scientific P.)

Howard, R., *Surgical Nursing and Principles of Surgery for Nurses.* 7½×5. Pp. 334. 6s. (E. Arnold.)

Lambert, T. *Glue, Gelatine, and their Allied Products. Practical Handbook for Manufacturer, Agriculturist, and Student of Technology.* 7½×5½. Pp. 166. 5s. net. (Griffin.)

Perkin, F. Mollwo. *Qualitative Chemical Analysis, Organic and Inorganic.* Illus. 3rd impression, 2nd edit. 8½×5½. Pp. 316. 4s. (Longmans.)

Powell, W. M. *Saunders' Pocket Medical Formulary.* 7th edit. 12mo. 7s. 6d. net. (Hirschfeld.)

Poynting, J. H., Thomson, J. J. *Text-book of Physics. Properties of Matter.* 3rd edit. 9½×6½. Pp. 236. 10s. 6d. (Griffin.)

Voysey, Mary H. Annesley. *Nursing: Hints to Probationers on Practical Work.* 7½×4½. Pp. 116. 2s. net. (Scientific P.)

Wade, J. *Introduction to the Study of Organic Chemistry.* 7½×4½. Pp. 646. Second edition. 8s. 6d. net. (Swan Sonnenschein.)

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Mr. E. S. Willcocks has been appointed as dispenser of medicines by the Portsmouth Guardians.

Several handsome contributions to the Queen's Fund for the Unemployed have been made by firms connected with the drug-trade.

At Leeds on November 16, William Henry Edwards, doctor's dispenser, was committed for trial at the Assizes on charges of embezzlement and forgery.

William Sanderson, a colliery engineer, has been committed for trial at Bishop Auckland on a charge of attempting to murder his wife by administering oxalic acid.

At a meeting of the Bradford Municipal Officers' Guild last week Mr. F. W. Richardson (city analyst) lectured on "Microbes as Sanitary Agents," his remarks being illustrated by numerous lantern-slides.

Joseph Smyth was charged at Hull, on November 17, with embezzling sums amounting to about 200*l.* from his employers, Messrs. N. Waterhouse & Sons, chemical and medical exporters. Prisoner was remanded.

The Cockermouth Board of Guardians has declined to adopt the recommendation of the Local Government Board that the Board should provide "expensive" medicines instead of the medical officers out of their salaries.

At an inquest held on the late Mr. Henry Monkhouse, chemist, Derby, whose sudden death was reported in last week's CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST (p. 791), it was stated that Mr. Monkhouse had been suffering from slight bronchitis recently, and death was attributed to syncope, aggravated by some bronchial complaint.

The Bradford Chemists' and Grocers' Associations have sought the help of the Bradford Chamber of Trades for their campaign against the use, by the public, of screw-stoppered mineral-water bottles for the conveyance and storage of dangerous liquids. A deputation from the Chamber is to wait on the Health Committee of the Corporation about the matter.

For Christmas a window-dressing competition has been instituted among the shopkeepers of the various branches of trade in Halifax "for the encouragement of assistants and the making of the window-displays more attractive." Among the four judges appointed is Mr. R. C. Walshaw, chemist and druggist, Huddersfield. The competition is under the auspices of the Halifax Chamber of Trade.

The Local Government report (England and Wales) for 1904-5 was issued on Thursday. In dealing with the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts it states that in 1904 of 84,678 samples analysed 7,173 were reported against, and proceedings were taken in 3,707 cases, but penalties were imposed in 2,777 only. Dealing with drugs, the report states that 11.3 per cent. were reported against (9.6 in 1903), and only one case is commented upon—viz., the Birmingham quinine-mixture, as to which the analyst's report is quoted.

Typhoid at Lincoln.

Lincoln still shows traces of the epidemic of typhoid fever. The railway companies continue to carry immense quantities of water in tank-wagons from a distant source. This is pumped into large corrugated-iron drums two on a lorry, with service-taps, and drawn to known points in the city and left there for the public to take their day's supply of water for drinking-purposes. Great progress has been made with the boring-operations, and by the end of this year it is hoped to reach an abundant supply of water; some three or four months after that will be required to connect the supply. The Corporation are doing their utmost to render innocuous the supply from the old source, but except for ordinary domestic operations it is not much used. Our correspondent was told by a chemist in Lincoln that sulphate of copper and quicklime are largely used to add to the water, but this gives it a most unpleasant taste and smell. Next to zinc buckets, disinfectants and filters have had the largest sale of any article in Lincoln for some time.

East Anglian Notes.

Mr. A. Driver, chemist, Long Sutton, and his wife rode their bicycles on the footpath at Gedney on October 25 with the result that they had to appear at the Police Court last week. That the Magistrates did not consider the offence very heinous may be gathered from the fact that the fines were 6*d.* each.

Mr. J. de Carle Smith, chemist, has been appointed on various committees of the Norwich Town Council, among others the Castle Museum Committee. On this body Mr. F. Sutton, F.C.S., F.I.C., serves as a co-opted member in virtue of being a person specially interested in science, as the official phraseology has it.

In the Public Service.

Alderman F. Bird, chemist and druggist, Coventry, has been re-elected Chairman of the Coventry Education Committee.

Alderman J. A. Steward, chemist and druggist, has been elected a member of the Worcester Watch Committee, a Municipal Charity trustee, and a governor of the Royal Free Grammar School.

For a casual vacancy on Dukinfield Town Council Mr. James Avison, chemist and druggist, of King Street, Dukinfield, is, by arrangement between the political parties, to be elected unopposed.

Mr. T. C. Lamb, of the firm of Tribe & Lamb, chemists, Chatham, who failed to secure re-election to the Town Council on November 9, has been elected unopposed as a member of that body to fill a casual vacancy.

A series of excellent photographs of the Mayoral Sunday parade at Stafford on November 12 has reached us. We have not space to reproduce them, but one of the best represents the Mayor (Mr. William Marson, chemist and druggist) in his robes, supported by the ex-Mayor, Rector, and Town Clerk, on the way to St. Mary's Church. It was an interesting fact, and one that vouches for the popularity of the Mayor, that there were no fewer than eleven ex-Mayors of the borough in the procession. The Mayor was likewise well supported by members of his family. Ten of his brothers and sisters were there, and his sole regret was that his youngest sister, owing to recent bereavement, was unable to be present.

Midland Notes.

Alderman F. Bird has again been appointed chairman of the Coventry Education Committee.

Colonel Wyley is bringing forward an important scheme of technical education for the "City of the Three Spires."

Miss Edith H. Newark secured the Chemist and Druggists' prize at the Birmingham Technical School examination.

The November issue of the "Birmingham Municipal Technical School Magazine" contains an excellent portrait and biographical notes of Professor Tilden.

There is a considerable glut in the female-dispenser market at Birmingham. Within a week six called upon a local employer asking if any engagements in dispensaries were likely to be forthcoming.

Mr. C. J. Woodward, a former lecturer on chemistry at the Birmingham Technical School, has just published his reminiscences of the early days of the Birmingham and Midland Institute, which is about to celebrate its jubilee.

Mr. Alderman Cook has been elected Chairman of the Health Committee of Birmingham. This committee has the investigation of offences under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and before it many a pharmacist has appeared to "show cause and give explanation" as to why certain things sold were not of the nature and quality demanded.

The grocers of the Midlands have confederated, and, in addition to the usual staff, have called in the services of an analyst. All and sundry were circularised and called upon. One, a pharmacist, declined to enter into what appeared to be a competition based upon the lowest tender. Ridiculously low fees were quoted.

In a Birmingham pharmacy may be seen an effective advertisement of cod-liver oil. It is a beautifully made fisherman's boat embedded in huge white crystals representing ice. In a suburban window there is a highly decorated plaster-cast of an old lady who is hugging to herself a bottle

which on close inspection is seen to contain a wonderful cough-cure. The features are ambiguous; one cannot gather whether the stuff is going to be or has been taken.

A preliminary meeting of the Local Conference Committee is called by circular, signed by Messrs. T. Barclay, A. W. Gerrard, F. J. Gibson (Wolverhampton), John Averill (Stafford), and C. Thompson, for November 30, at the Grand Hotel, Colmore Row. The chair will be taken at 3.30 p.m. A full meeting is expected. Next year's Conference will be the third held in Birmingham.

The "Birmingham Post" had an article on Wednesday entitled "Is Man's Sun Setting?" One would think so, for the Wolverhampton chemists offered two prizes at their technical school for sciences pertaining to pharmacy, and both were taken by ladies who did not belong to the Art; while at the chemist and druggists' classes held on Wednesday afternoons a lady secured the only prize in face of the thirty or forty young and clever students who attend them. An old Bell scholar of our Society, Dr. Tilden, F.R.S., distributed the prizes at the annual gathering last week.

The reference in this column last week to a sessions case in which Mr. Marshall Freeman was concerned seems to have lent itself to misinterpretation. The case was reported with sensational headlines by a local morning paper, which did not, however, report either the full details of the case or the argument on the legal point raised. It appears that the Assistant Recorder, after some hesitation, told the jury that as there was a doubt about the matter he thought it would be "safer" to let the prisoner go. Before the close of the sessions, however, Mr. Marshall Freeman, addressing the Recorder (Mr. Dugdale, K.C.), commented on the fact that the Assistant Recorder in letting the prisoner go instead of taking any of several other courses open to him, had prevented anything more being done. He (Mr. Freeman), having had an opportunity of looking into the authorities, was prepared fully to justify what he had done, and to do the same again in similar circumstances.

Manchester Notes.

The Infirmary Committee of the Salford Guardians has resolved to carry out the work recommended by the medical officer of health at the Hope Hospital, and to have plans prepared for a drainage scheme for the hospital.

Mr. J. E. Platt, F.R.C.S., has been promoted to honorary surgeon at the Manchester Royal Infirmary, in place of the late Mr. Joseph Collier; and Mr. A. Burgess, F.R.C.S., has been appointed honorary assistant surgeon.

Owing to the great increase in the number of students of botany at Manchester University, a new botanical laboratory has become essential. More room is wanted, not only for teaching-purposes, but also for museum specimens and for the collections of plants.

Mr. F. W. Bates, Brook's Bar, Chairman of the Stretford Education Committee, presided over a gathering held recently at the Technical Institute, Old Trafford, at which the four hundred prizes gained by students in schools under the management of the Stretford Education Committee were distributed by Sir Henry Hibbert, Chairman of the County Education Committee.

There are very nearly 150 students attending the special lectures and classes for grocers and provision-dealers at the Manchester Municipal Evening School of Commerce. The courses extend over three years, in addition to a preparatory course for apprentices, and between sixty and seventy students are taking out the second year's course. The subjects dealt with include bookkeeping, law, knowledge of commodities, hygiene of foodstuffs and their adulteration and analysis. Over 3,000 evening students attend the various classes.

Will the grocers be able to identify the "neutral fat" of American manufacture which is being used to adulterate butter to the extent of 15 to 20 per cent., and which the analyst cannot detect? It is said that enormous quantities of this mixture are being produced at a profit of 12*l.* a ton, and the matter is being very seriously discussed in the Manchester market. According to the city analyst's report, 50 per cent. of the samples of adulterated food were obtained in the suburban districts recently added to the city.

At the Lancashire Court of Chancery on November 21, the Saccharin Corporation, Ltd., London, secured an injunction against J. McNicol, trading as J. Mack & Co., Manchester, restraining him from selling saccharin manufactured under an infringement of plaintiffs' letters patent.

"Some Aspects of the Chemist as an Unqualified Practitioner" formed the subject of a paper read before the Manchester Medical Students' Debating Society, on November 20, by Mr. J. D. Staley, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.E., L.F.P.S. (Glas.), who also moved the following resolution:

That this house is in favour of such general control of the prescribing chemist as shall provide adequate protection to the general practitioner.

Mr. J. Grier, lecturer on pharmacy, moved the following amendment to the resolution:

That this house is in favour of such general control both of the prescribing chemist and of the dispensing medical man as shall provide adequate protection to the general public.

After a good discussion the amendment was carried by a majority of seven.

The Elliotts of Sheffield.

An interesting correspondence has arisen in the "Sheffield Daily Telegraph" anent the residences of Ebenezer Elliott, the Corn Law Rhymmer. On November 16 a correspondent said he remembered Elliott keeping a druggists' shop in Gibraltar Street. At that time he wore coloured spectacles, and the shop was by no means either tidy or clean. This was followed by a letter from Mr. R. E. Leader, the authority on all matters connected with old Sheffield, who said that the druggist referred to was Ebenezer Elliott's son, John Gartside Elliott, who died in 1890. The first correspondent replied that he referred to an old man of sixty or sixty-three, and the period was 1845 or 1846; therefore it could not be the son. Other correspondents followed, and at last Mr. John Austen, Ph.C., cleared up the mystery by stating that Charles Elliott, who commenced business at 90 Westbar Green, in 1825, was, up to 1844, the only druggist of that name in Sheffield. He was one of the trustees of the Withers Charity, and died, a bachelor, about twenty-five years ago, aged eighty. He was no relation of Elliott the poet, whose son, John Gartside Elliott, commenced business at 180 Gibraltar Street in 1844. He was then just twenty-one years of age. Shortly afterwards Ebenezer Elliott, in writing to his publisher in Edinburgh, thus describes his druggist son:

John, the weakling; kind-hearted, intelligent; 5 ft. 4 in. in height, and almost blind; druggisting in Sheffield in a sort of chimney, called a shop. He is engaged almost without a moment's pause from seven in the morning until ten at night in dealing out halfpennyworths of drugs. Yet, I think, he is as likely to thrive as most of his neighbours. He retired from business in 1888, and went to reside at Beauchief, where he died two years later at the age of sixty-seven.

L.C.C. Matters.

At the weekly meeting of the London County Council, on November 21, it was agreed, on the recommendation of the Building Act Committee, to consent to the erection of a projecting sign at 18 Archer Street, Kensington, as shown on the plan submitted on behalf of the British and Continental Drug Co.

At the same meeting it was agreed, on the recommendation of the Stores Committee, to enter into contracts with Hopkin & Williams, Ltd., Houghtons, Ltd., Horner & Sons, and Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co. for chemicals, first-aid appliances, etc.; with A. Gallencamp & Co., Ltd., for chemical apparatus, etc.; and with A. Clarkson & Co., Ltd. (until July 31, 1906), for optical-lantern accessories.

Analysts' Reports.

During the same period the Camberwell analyst has examined seven samples of camphorated oil, and found all of them genuine.

The public analyst of Wandsworth has examined one sample of iron pills during the past quarter, and has found the same to be genuine.

The Kent county analyst reports that of sixty-four samples of drugs analysed one of cream of tartar was slightly below the standard of the British Pharmacopœia, containing 92.2 per cent. instead of 97 per cent. of bitartrate of potash, the impurity being calcium tartrate.

"Medicine" and Pills.

At Nottingham on Friday, November 17, Madame Jalland Wright, 25 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, was charged with obtaining two sums of 17s. by false pretences, by representing certain medicine and pills "to be efficacious." The medicine, on being analysed, was found to consist of 99.4 parts of water and 0.6 of dissolved matter; and the pills contained 8.2 parts of water, 7.8 of mineral matter, and 84 of organic matter. It was stated by the city analyst that the medicine or pills would have no effect upon any woman taking them, and the former was worth about 6d. and the pills about 2d. a dozen. The Bench held that no case of obtaining money by false pretences had been made out, and the charges were dismissed.

Fire.

On November 17 a fire occurred on the premises of Messrs. H. D. Pochin & Co., Ltd., manufacturing chemists, at Temple Back, Bristol. The cause of the fire is not known, but the outbreak was discovered by some workmen shortly after half-past three, in a chemical store-room at the rear of the premises, which were adjacent to the river. The Brigade were summoned, and quickly attended, but by this time the flames had gained ground. The premises were constructed largely of wood, and for some minutes this burned fiercely, and led many to think that the fire would be a great one, but shortly after the arrival of the Brigade it was seen that they had the fire under their control, and in a very short time the fire was at an end, and all danger to neighbouring buildings removed. One of the chief dangers was the presence of tanks of acid on the premises, but these were fortunately prevented from collapsing.

A Drug-tender.

At a meeting of the Derby Board of Guardians on November 21, it was reported that Messrs. R. Daniel & Sons, Babington Lane, Mr. J. W. Thorpe, 15 St. James's Street, and Messrs. Davies, Gibbins & Co. had sent in tenders for the supply of drugs. Several members inquired who Mr. Thorpe was, saying that Boots, Ltd., were the only chemists in St. James's Street. Councillor Wood said that Mr. Thorpe had no right to tender in his own name if he was a servant of Boots, Ltd. He moved that Mr. Thorpe's name be struck out, and this was unanimously agreed to. It was then decided that the lowest tender should be accepted, and the Clerk said that the estimate sent in by Messrs. Davies, Gibbins & Co. (130l. 11s. 8½d.) was the lowest, Messrs. Daniel's being 136l. 15s. 7½d. Before the meeting terminated, however, it was discovered that there was a mistake of 10l. in Messrs. Davies, Gibbins & Co.'s total and the other was really the lower. The tender of Messrs. Daniel was ultimately accepted.

Football.

Newcastle Pharmacy F.C. v. Hebburn Wednesday F.C.—Played at Hebburn, and ended in a draw of three goals each, after Hebburn leading by three goals in the first half-hour. For Pharmacy, Thompson and Robson did good work at back.

The football team of the Sheffield Pharmacy Athletic Club are steadily improving in form. The return match against the South Street (Moor) team on Thursday of last week, on the latter's ground, resulted in a draw, one goal being scored on each side, the pharmacists playing with only seven men. On the previous occasion when the teams met the pharmacists were beaten by six goals to one.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Branching Out.

The Executive of the Northern Branch of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland are considering the advisability of starting an assistants' and apprentices' association as an off-shoot of the parent branch. It is felt, now that the Society has its own rooms, that a move in the direction indicated would be welcomed by the rank-and-file of the trade generally.

Personal.

Mr. Joseph G. Whiteside, late of Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Ltd., chemists and druggists, Bride Street, Dublin, has taken up his new position as manager of the retail department of Messrs. McMaster, Hodgson & Co.'s business at Capel Street, Dublin, in succession to Mr. E. B. Aplin.

Drug-contractors' Complaint.

At the meeting of the Downpatrick Board of Guardians on November 18, a letter was read from Messrs. Hunt & Co., Dublin, former drug-contractors to the Union, forwarding a statement of accounts for empty packages that had not been returned, and intimating that if a payment was not made they would be compelled to put the matter into the hands of a solicitor for collection. The Guardians directed the Clerk to request Messrs. Hunt to supply a detailed statement of the unreturned empties at each dispensary, so that the medical officers could be communicated with.

Veterinary Advice Free.

At the Nenagh Petty Sessions on November 18, Mr. F. P. McAlindar was charged at the instance of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons with publishing a notice stating that he would give veterinary advice free. Defendant's name is not on the register of veterinary surgeons. Mr. Dualey White, for the plaintiffs, said no person who has not obtained a diploma is entitled to practise veterinary surgery. Evidence was given that handbills were distributed bearing the words "Veterinary Advice Free," but the case was dismissed without costs on the ground that there was no proof of offence within six months.

Returned Drugs.

At the Urlingford Board of Guardians a letter was read from Messrs. Sumner & Co., Liverpool, acknowledging the receipt of a paying-order for 24*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*, which they placed to the credit of the Board's account. They found the Board had apparently deducted 12*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* for drugs supplied on August 4, but the firm state that they cannot accept these goods back. They hold a copy of the order for them, which is signed by the Chairman, the Clerk, and the Medical Officer, and it was executed accordingly. If a mistake has been made by the Board they are not responsible for it. The goods which the Board returned are now at Messrs. Sumner's warehouse at the Guardians' risk. The consideration of the matter was adjourned for a fortnight, Messrs. Sumner & Co. to be informed that it was a mistake on the part of the acting medical officer to have ordered these drugs, and that Messrs. Sumner be asked to accept them as returned.

Premonition or Suicide?

An inquest was held at Belfast on November 18 on the body of George Robinson, head of a whisky firm in Armagh, who was found dead in bed in the Métropole Hotel the previous day. It was supposed that it was a suicide by poisoning, but a *post-mortem* showed that death was due to natural causes. The police, however, produced a note left by deceased, addressed to Mr. John Gray, druggist, Armagh, with the words—"Forgive and forget me.—Nov. 16, 1905." Mr. Gray said when he got the note from the deceased he was frightened, and searched the town for him. He heard that he had gone to Belfast, and followed him. He had been with deceased the evening before his death, and he was perfectly sober, but he thought deceased must have been drinking for some time previously. Mr. Gray said deceased had a bad heart. He (witness) could not explain the note sent to him. Deceased was despondent about his health. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

Technical Education in Belfast.

The chemistry classes in connection with the new Belfast Technical Institute are now in full swing, and the attendances this session are very gratifying. This year the teachers are Messrs. S. Templeton, A.R.C.Sc.I., F.I.C., James Andrews, First Honoursman, S. and A.D.; Charles J. Still; C. McMullan, A.I.C.; and A. W. Knapp, B.Sc., A.I.C. There are classes in inorganic and organic chemistry, practical chemistry, and practical inorganic chemistry. General and pharmaceutical chemistry is in charge of Mr. Templeton and Mr. Still, with the assistance of Mr. T. Harper, M.P.S.G.B., L.P.S.I., who deals with the botany for pharmaceutical students, materia medica, theoretical and

practical pharmacy, and also materia medica and pharmacy for druggists. As the new institute, which is being erected at a cost of over 100,000*l.*, is not quite finished, the classes are mainly held in the Working-men's Institute. The Belfast representative of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST a few days ago was conducted through the chemistry department of the new building. On floor D there is a laboratory 93 ft. long by 42 ft. wide and 30 ft. high. When fitted up it will contain nine advanced and eleven elementary benches, with accommodation for over eighty students.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Glasgow Notes.

The explosion of a cylinder on November 20 at the Scottish Oxygen Co.'s works, Glasgow, blew James Ward through two doorways, and killed him.

Deputations from the Executive of the Trade Association are now on their rounds collecting signatures to the dispensing price-list for proprietary articles issued by the Association last July.

Business is still abnormally dull. Christmas window-shows are beginning to appear, but the comparative collapse in recent years of the Christmas trade in perfumes and fancy goods has given many retailers pause.

Mr. William Bonnar, chemist and druggist, 630 Rutherglen Road, has disposed of his business there to two medical men, who will use the premises as a surgery. He has also sold his branch shop in Rutherglen Road to Mr. J. Russell, and intends henceforth to confine his attention to his handsome new shop at the corner of Rutherglen Road and Polmadie Road.

The movement to promote a testimonial to Mr. W. L. Currie in recognition of his long and valuable services to the local Pharmaceutical Association, and on behalf of the scientific and trade interests of pharmacy in the West of Scotland, is now taking practical form. A circular-letter is about to be issued explaining the origin and objects of the movement, and copies of this will be sent to all chemists in business in Glasgow and the West country. Although the fund is not yet opened, subscriptions have been coming in freely, and the movement promises to be highly successful. We hope to give further particulars next week.

India and the East.

(News from our own Correspondents.)

AN INDIAN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, with centres at Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras, is mooted.

THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT are establishing a new Technical School at Ahmedabad, an important industrial centre.

THE COCAINE-HABIT in Calcutta is recorded to be on the increase, despite the strenuous efforts made to cope with it. An illustration of the tactics employed to evade the law was disclosed in a recent prosecution, where it was shown that two tins full of the drug were discovered in a package declared to be printed music. A fine of Rs. 1,000 was imposed.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Thomas Robb, for many years manager with C. F. Pearson & Co., chemists, Secunderabad, is presently to blossom into pharmacy on his own account.—Mr. J. H. V. Wilkinson, chemist and druggist, is suing Messrs. Abid & Co., Hyderabad (Deccan), for damages for wrongful dismissal, the outcome of a letter written to a large London house.

URBS PRIMA IN INDIS (Bombay) is making a big bid for Royal favour in the matter of illumination and decoration, writes our Bombay correspondent on November 4. It is estimated that on the night of the illuminations there will be over six miles of thoroughfare given over to every manner of light. The handsome buildings of the main thoroughfare—(Esplanade Road and Hornby Road)—are more suitable for ornamenting than any others in India.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

A SERIOUS EXPLOSION.—M. Brun, a pharmacist, recently built a villa in the suburbs of Montélimar (President Loubet's town), and has had it destroyed by a serious explosion which was audible at a distance of two miles. The damages were presumably caused by an acetylene apparatus, and are estimated at 40,000f. (1,600*l.*). The pharmacist was not insured: he had arranged to sign the policy on the following day.

MICROBICIDE PAINTS.—The campaign commenced by the French Touring Club for hygienic hotels includes the recommendation to use Aspinall's enamel and similar substances in preference to wall-paper. Dr. Beaufrès, of Paris, has studied this question closely, and has come to the conclusion that mural paints may have a decided bactericidal action. The paints most efficient as a protection are Routtand white, ultramarine, Routtand yellow, Ripolin red, and white lead.

A CHEMIST GAROTTED.—A young chemistry professor, M. Charles Becke, residing in the Batignolles quarter of Paris, was walking home across the Place Clichy one night last week when he was garotted by three individuals. Having thrown him down they were emptying his pockets while passers-by judged discretion the better part of valour, until a couple of baker's men interposed on his behalf. The robbers stabbed one of them in the region of the heart, but the other helped M. Becke on to his feet and both started in pursuit. The fugitives fired upon the pursuers, and M. Becke's hat was pierced by a revolver-bullet, but, thanks to courageous persistence, the three modern highwaymen are in safe custody.

LADY PHARMACISTS.—The idea expressed in a recent *C. & D.* leading article, that the female practitioner is hardly likely to affect pharmacy seriously, seems as true in France as in Great Britain. Of the three ladies who have actually opened shop in Paris, one has married her assistant, another seems principally anxious to assure the success of certain proprietaries she specialises in, and will probably retire as soon as she has gained her object. The third occasionally does work for a leading scientific pharmacist; so everything seems to point to the fact that the lady pharmacist is painstaking in study and laboratory work, efficient as a dispenser, colleague, or collaborator; but that in actual counter-work the male pharmacist is likely to hold his own.

THE MODUS OPERANDI of establishing a "grande pharmacie" (company drug-store) in France is amusingly described in a recent publication. The capitalist informs himself as to the pharmacists in a town who are desirous or likely of selling their businesses. He presents himself as a likely buyer, obtains as complete information as possible regarding the business, inspects the ledger and prescription-books, and takes copious notes. He then (like the sun occasionally) totally but temporarily eclipses himself. Some time after the pharmacists of the town remark that an eligible corner site has been let, and is being fitted up as a "grande pharmacie commerciale." The proprietor duly makes his appearance, and proves to be—the inquiring caller of a few months before, who then gained an excellent idea of how best to push local trade.

TWO CENTURIES AGO.—The following is from a record of French science of 1704:

The chemical lectures which MM. the Apothecaries of Paris commenced a few years ago have had such a favourable success (*sic*) that to interrupt them would disoblige the Learned and the Curious. Therefore M. de la Rivière was invited to give one more, to which all the faculty of medicine was invited. He commenced on May 10, and all those who assisted were convinced he had undertaken nothing beyond his competence. He began by eulogising his company and predecessors, and after having lengthily dwelt on the merit of M. Fagon, the King's head physician, he showed the use of chemistry to the public, and how much we owe to our Invincible Monarch, who has protected this not less than the other sciences. . . . He detailed the different sentiments of authors on the subject, and concluded in favour of the sentiment of those who believe that salt and sulphur, earth and water, are the only elements and the veritable substances of which others are composed.

PHARMACEUTICAL ADVERTISING.—In France "tout finit par des chansons," and pharmaceutical advertising has at last proved the truth of the assertion. A pharmacist in a small town of the centre of France (Montluçon) has written a four-verse song in which he jocularly insists on the superiority of the "Great Paris Pharmacy." It is in the most approved music-hall style, and, it appears, has been actually sung at the local *café* concert with some success. The catchy chorus runs somewhat like this, though it loses a great deal by translation:

Take the bottle, shake and shake it
That no sediment may rest.
To heal you all I'll do my best;
Shake and shake it ere you take it.

NEW MEDICAMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY.—The pharmacist, points out M. Vigneron, is still legally responsible for all he sells, though in many cases he must necessarily be ignorant of its exact nature. He proposes as a leading principle: "That the offer for sale or prescribing of any product unauthorised by the Codex Committee be forbidden." This once admitted, details could easily be arranged. The author of a "new product" should be compelled, he contends, to hand in the formula and mode of preparation and, if need be, chemical composition to the Codex Committee. This body would decide (1) if the product should be sold, (2) for how long a period the inventor should have the monopoly, (3) on what conditions. Thus all medicaments would be divided into two great classes: (1) Those for which the pharmacist was responsible; (2) those "authorised" and quoted—nominally only—in an appendix, approved by the Codex Committee after examination in a special laboratory, and sold "under the responsibility of their originators." And now, M. Vigneron, who will bell the cat?

Colonial and Foreign News.

GERMAN WOMEN AS CHEMISTS.—A lady has written to one of the leading Berlin papers about the exclusion (practically) of women from pharmacy in Germany, traversing the whole ground that was gone over at the Apotheker Verein meeting in Breslau, and concluding with the observation that women have been employed in pharmacy for years in England, Russia, and America.

INCOMPATIBLE.—A special meeting of pharmacists and their assistants was held in St. Petersburg on November 7 to discuss the closer union of all interested in pharmacy in Russia. The meeting failed to attain any definite object, for most of the assistants held that as long as employers looked upon assistants as slaves and learners as cheap labour, it would be impossible to establish a community of interest.

TINCTURE OF SWEET-ORANGE PEEL FOR NEW ZEALAND.—A notice has recently been drawn up and gazetted in accordance with the provisions of Section 67 of the Customs Laws Consolidation Act, 1882, and Section 6 of the Customs Duties Amendment Act, 1900, prohibiting the importation into New Zealand of "tincture of sweet-orange peel made according to the standard laid down in any recognised Pharmacopœia." So it is reported in the "Board of Trade Journal."

ENGLISH CHEMIST IN MEXICO.—The "Farmacia" of Mexico announces that Professor James McConnel Sanders has been admitted an active member of the Mexican Pharmaceutical Society. He is a well-known English chemist, and is at present engaged in discharging important duties in the Customs Department of Mexico and in the National Medical Institute. The journal in the same number gives at length Professor Sanders's inaugural address, which was devoted to "Practical Technical Analysis."

AUSTRALIAN TRADE-MARKS BILL.—A Reuter telegram from Melbourne, dated November 18, states that certain clauses in the Federal Government's Trade-marks Bill, providing for the labelling of goods in such a way as to indicate those made wholly by union labour, having been met by the Opposition with obstructive tactics, the Government moved some new closure proposals of an extremely drastic character. These proposals the Opposition have "stonewalled" with the same persistence as they did the objectionable clauses of the Trade-marks Bill.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:

South African Pharmaceutical Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.
Natal Pharmaceutical Society.
Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society.
Rhodesia Pharmaceutical Society.
Northern District Chemists' Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Orange River Colony.

Cape Colony.

SETTLED.—A case in which Mr. Howe Drummond claimed damages from Mr. Charles Henry Stevens, proprietor of "Sacco," was set down for trial and argument in the Supreme Court on October 27, but a settlement having been effected, plaintiff has withdrawn the case from the roll.

AMALGAMATED CHEMISTS' DANCE.—A successful Cinderella dance, organised by the Amalgamated Chemists, was held on October 27 in the Goode Trouw Hall, Cape Town. A capital attendance was recorded, the hall being taxed to its fullest capacity for most of the dances. The

Chemists' Association," and in his remarks congratulated the Association on the good-fellowship that existed among its members, and hoping that it would be maintained during the session just commenced. During the evening a presentation of a purse of gold was made to Mr. Boddy in commemoration of his recent marriage. A good musical programme had been arranged, and all the items were well received. Songs, recitations, etc., were given by Messrs. Dunkerton, Pollexfen, Parry, Boyd, Harrison, Thane, and Stewart, Mr. Gilmore presiding at the piano.

Natal.

BUSINESS IN GENERAL in the Colony is stagnant.

Mr. J. R. WHEELER has been admitted to practise as a chemist and druggist in the Colony.

PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION.—The Natal Pharmacy Board has decided to accept the Merit certificate issued by the Education Department, Natal, as qualifying for the Preliminary Pharmacy certificate, provided an examination in Latin not exceeding the scope of Bell's Latin Course, Parts I. and II., is also passed by the candidate. Candidates not holding the Merit certificate must pass an examination equivalent to the Merit certificate examination *plus* the necessary Latin paper. All entries for this examination must be sent to the Superintendent of Education before December 31, 1905. The examination will be held in June



CAPE CHEMISTS' DANCE.
(From a flashlight photograph.)

President of the Pharmaceutical Society (Councillor J. Jones) and Mrs. Jones, the Vice-President (Mr. J. S. North) and Mrs. North, Messrs. Alf. Mathew, R. S. Smiles, J. Lowden, H. Cope, and McKinley were among those present. The younger members of the craft, particularly those connected with the Cricket Club, were in full force, and contrived to keep the dancing going with a swing during the whole of the evening. The duties of M.C. were ably carried out by Mr. W. F. Clarke, and the same gentleman was responsible for a most successful flashlight photograph which was taken during the interval. Great credit is due to Mr. L. West, the energetic Secretary, and to Messrs. J. Banks, G. Dunsdon, T. Williams, and J. Clayton Smith, who acted as stewards, for their efforts, which had much to do with the success of the evening. Dancing commenced promptly at 8 P.M., and was kept up with little intermission till a few minutes to twelve.

A SMOKER.—The second annual smoking-concert of the Northern District Chemists' Association was held on October 26 at the Craven Hotel, Kimberley. The chair was occupied by the President (Mr. E. B. Dunkerton), and among those present were Mr. M. Thane (Vice-President) and Messrs. Houghton, Robinson, Burton, Dand, Lane, Parry, Pollexfen, Bailey, Boyd, Stewart, Lamont, Boddy, Brown, Read, Garwood, and Tipper (Secretary). The Chairman proposed the toast of "The Northern District

1906, both for candidates who will sit for the Latin paper only and for those who do not possess a Merit certificate. The foregoing is the substance of a Government notice issued by the Education Department.

Transvaal.

BUSINESS CHANGE.—Mr. A. Rennie, chemist, in consequence of his premises being pulled down, has removed to Imperial Buildings, Johannesburg.

PROPRIETARY PRICES.—The Transvaal is one of the few places where anything like unanimity in prices charged for patent and proprietary medicines is observed. A retail price-list has been in use in this connection with marked success for two years. From time to time alterations are of necessity made. Any lines taken up or cut by the grocer, such as infants' food, Pears' soap, etc., are promptly brought down and sold at the same figure, with the result that the grocer finds the demand is not what he anticipated, and this generally prevents a further invasion into patents which form such a large portion of the chemists' turnover. The Pharmaceutical Society has revised and enlarged the former list, and the new edition may be obtained from any of the wholesale houses in Johannesburg for 5s. a copy. The committee trusts that every chemist in the State will procure a copy, and that he will adhere to the prices therein, as the general advantage of such a course must be obvious.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. NICHOLS & SELLERS, 6 Crutched Friars, London, E.C., offer to supply petroleum jelly in bulk to those who can purchase wholesale quantities.

THE B. F. GOODRICH Co., 7 Snow Hill, London, E.C., will send to any of our readers, on receipt of a postcard, a list of the Goodrich range of atomisers, vaporisers, and nebulisers.

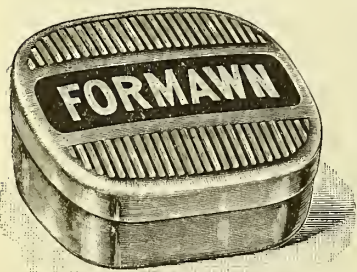
THE DIFFICULTY with the old-fashioned feeding-bottle, so far as nursing is concerned, is that the bottle has to be held by someone while the baby is drinking. Messrs. Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., have got over this by the introduction of the "Allenburys" feeder-holder. This is a tinned-wire support, into which the bottle is inserted; then it is placed on the pillow beside baby, who thereupon begins to feed and requires no other attention. In this case the valve-arrangement of the "Allenburys" feeder is advantageous in preventing leakage when baby is satisfied. The holder should "sell at sight."

THE PROPRIETOR OF BEECHAM'S PILLS, St. Helens, Lancashire, offers a set of seasonable advertising-novelties to our readers, including a remarkably good family calendar, the feature of which is a series of "winged words" for each day of the year alongside the dates. Reminders and events are also given for each day, as well as the hours of rising and setting of the sun. There is, besides, a great deal of useful information, including a page of motor-identification marks. The almanack is well illustrated. Other advertising-novelties are described in an advertisement in this issue.

ELECTRICAL NOVELTIES.—The new list of electrical novelties made by Messrs. F. Darton & Co., 142 St. John Street, E.C., has just appeared. It comes at an opportune moment when many up-to-date chemists are on the look-out for novelties for Christmas sale, although the goods in the list are by no means limited in sale to the festive season. Most healthy British schoolboys would willingly go without their dinners if they could save money to purchase some of the alluring electrical apparatus which Mr. Darton makes. Why should not chemists pander to a not unwholesome taste, seeing that they have the scientific ability to help by advice their youthful customers?

P.A.T.A. ADDITIONS.—The articles added to the P.A.T.A. protected list during November include Archibald's oatmeal cream, shaving-sticks, and shampoo-powders; Enosine corn-plaster, Oatfield's perfume, Carbonine soap, Coleman's nerve pills, Cupiss's horse-balls, Denoual's blood-forming and hair-producing capsules, Liquoid asthma cure and liver-pills, Oldridge's Balm of Columbia, Rackham's pills and tonic compound, Squire & Son's preparations—Ferocal, Corisol, Fermanglobin, Maltoglobin, Kasak Elixir, Terperoin Elixir, etc.; Vercuro ointment, soap, and pills, Vite-Ore and V.-O. pills, tablets, suppositories, Ore-Oline, and Headache Relief.

FORMAWN.—When the Odol Chemical-works, 26 Southwark Bridge Road, London, S.E., introduced their antecatharrhal nose-wool we predicted that it would be a popular winter article for chemists' sale. The O.C.W. have made it so, and have again launched an extensive scheme of advertising which should stimulate the sales. Already 3,000,000 boxes of the nose-wool alone have been sold, but our readers are doubtless aware that "Formawn" tablets and inhaler are also in demand, both articles yielding P.A.T.A. profits. "Formawn" wool is put up in aluminium boxes the size of the engraving. A little of the wool is inserted in the nostrils when a cold is coming or has come on, and it has a remarkable effect in aborting the cold.



OOWANA SOAP appears to be getting an Indian necessity. Before H.M.S. *Victoria* sailed with the new Viceroy (the Earl of Minto), his Military Secretary wrote from on board asking Oowana, Ltd., 26 Red Lion Square, W.C., to send a consignment of the soap to India for use in his Excellency's household, Government House, Calcutta.

DISINFECTANTS.—Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son, Charlotte Street, Great Eastern Street, E.C., call our attention to the new-style package they are using for "Creosalgen" and carbolic disinfecting-powder. The tins are attractively enamelled, and space is left for the chemist's name on the paper label covering the perforated top. "Creosalgen" is a disinfecting-powder suitable for pushing as a speciality, the makers doing their part in helping the sale by providing a trustworthy air-purifier and a well-designed package.

"COLALIN" is the name given by Messrs. T. Morson & Son, 14 Elm Street, London, W.C., to cholic acid, the amorphous active principle of bile. Dr. J. Strickland Goodall has had the substance under observation and experiment for three months and he finds that soon after the administration of colalin the biliary flow is increased, the bile secreted being thin and watery in consistence, and pale in colour. The obvious result of this must be the regulation of the bowels, especially in cases where there is a costive tendency owing to decreased biliary secretion or that viscosity of bile which is so common. To those who have torpid livers colalin should prove to be a valuable medicine. The dose is from an eighth to a quarter of a grain: a small dose twice or thrice daily is better than a larger dose taken at once. In some cases the increased secretion of liquid bile results in better emulsification of food-fat, and consequent absorption, this having the effect of producing dry stools. For such cases colalin is combined with the anthraquinone principle of cascara sagrada. The remedy, in the pure state and in combination, is supplied by Messrs. T. Morson & Son in tablet form, pure colalin tablets being coated with chocolate while the others are red coated. The firm will give chemists any further information desired.



CONCRETE PERFUMES.—Nearly twenty years ago there was introduced a series of concrete perfumes, or "ottos," made by treating floral pomades with suitable solvents. These have fulfilled a useful place in the art of perfumery, and Messrs. Lautier fils, of Grasse and London, have for some years been experimenting with the view of obtaining similar products direct from the flowers without the intervention of fats or vegetable oils, which they reasonably suggest may modify the true natural odours. After scrapping one set of apparatus they have erected another for carrying out on the manufacturing scale the extraction of floral odours. The method consists in passing a volatile liquid of not too high boiling-point through the flowers, and evaporating the solvent when a residuum of the perfume is obtained. The apparatus is essentially a continuous-extraction one, the liquid, as it falls from the percolator, being distilled into the percolator again, the process being so conducted that there is no chance of either the solvent or the perfume escaping. It is essential in the process to have a perfectly odourless solvent or menstruum, and this Messrs. Lautier fils have obtained, the result being the production of ottos which are not only highly concentrated, but possess the whole of the odourous constituents of the flowers. A description of the process and figures of the apparatus are given in the last-issued "Etudes" of the firm. The purpose of this note is, however, to call attention to the products which we have had the opportunity of examining, and we have been struck not only with their richness, but with the possibilities which they possess in furnishing familiar perfumes with odours which are quite natural.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

THE inaugural evening meeting of the present session was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Friday, November 17, Mr. D. B. Dott, F.R.S.E. (Chairman of the session), presiding. The attendance was large, and included Principal Laurie (Heriot-Watt College), Dr. John Gibson, Dr. Sillar, Dr. Leonard Dobbin, Mr. J. Laidlaw Ewing, Mr. J. P. Gilmour (Glasgow), Mr. G. F. Merson (Kilmarnock), Mr. J. H. Fisher (Dunfermline), Mr. C. Kerr, Mr. W. Cummings, and Mr. J. H. Thomson (Dundee).

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM GILMOUR.

The CHAIRMAN, before commencing the business of the evening, referred to the death of Mr. Alexander Garvie and Mr. William Gilmour. By the death of Mr. Gilmour, he said, another blank had been made in the ranks of Scottish pharmacy. He had been an eminent member of the Board of Examiners in Scotland, and had always taken a great interest in everything connected with pharmacy and with the progress of the Pharmaceutical Society. He was a man of very high character, and was much esteemed and beloved by all who had the privilege of his personal acquaintance. It was agreed to record an expression of the regret of the members, and that letters of sympathy be sent to relatives of Mr. Garvie and Mr. Gilmour.

The inaugural address was then delivered by Professor C. R. MARSHALL, M.A., M.D., of the University College, Dundee, and the CHAIRMAN, in introducing him, referred to Professor Marshall's work on cannabis indica and jaborandi. To this we may add that Professor Marshall is a native of Bradford, where he was born in 1869. He was educated at Owens College, Manchester, and graduated M.B. at the Victoria University in 1892, becoming Research Fellow in Pharmacology at the college the same year. In 1894 he went to Cambridge University as assistant to the Downing Professor of Medicine, and remained there until he was appointed to his present professorship in 1899, receiving in that year M.A. Cantab (*honoris causa*) and M.D. Vict. with gold medal, his subject for the latter being a contribution to the pharmacology of organic nitrates. Professor Marshall read a paper to the British Pharmaceutical Conference at Dundee on the education of pharmacists. The title of his address last week was

SOME THOUGHTS ON A PHARMACOPŒIA.

After a few remarks regarding the association of medicine and pharmacy, the Professor explained that his address was suggested by a perusal of the new Pharmacopœia of the United States. It is difficult to criticise a Pharmacopœia justly and truly, he said. Apart from the many standpoints from which it may be viewed, there may be, and often are, unknown conditions which affect its making. He was certain that their pharmacopœial authorities endeavour to meet all their wants and give them the most reliable information they can obtain. He defined the chief use of a Pharmacopœia to be an intermediary between the physician and the pharmacist, and, as far as possible, to lighten the burden on the medical practitioner. The latter statement

might seem unnecessary to them, but a medical man has to learn what knowledge of the Pharmacopœia he required by heart, whereas the pharmacist might refer to it in all circumstances. A Pharmacopœia should contain all the drugs employed as remedies for the treatment of disease, and in the forms best adapted to that purpose. Unnecessary duplication should be avoided. The debatable point in that statement arises in connection with the question of what is necessary and what is unnecessary in therapeutics, and is associated with that of the duplication of remedies. That is a difficult question. Perhaps no two medical practitioners would agree absolutely as to what is necessary and what is unnecessary in treatment. And this is not hard to understand. Just as different men use different words and often different forms of speech to convey the same idea, so

different medical practitioners may use different means to attain the same end. There are many drugs with sufficiently similar actions to make it almost immaterial which is employed in therapeutics, and most vital processes, physiological or pathological, are generally so limited in their reactions that the same end can often be obtained in a variety of ways. There are not, and cannot be, many best ways, and consequently he felt constrained to maintain the thesis that no drug should find a place in a Pharmacopœia unless it cannot be proved that another and easily procurable drug will serve its purpose better. In Pharmacopœias there are many drugs which might be dispensed with without any loss to therapeutics—indeed, their

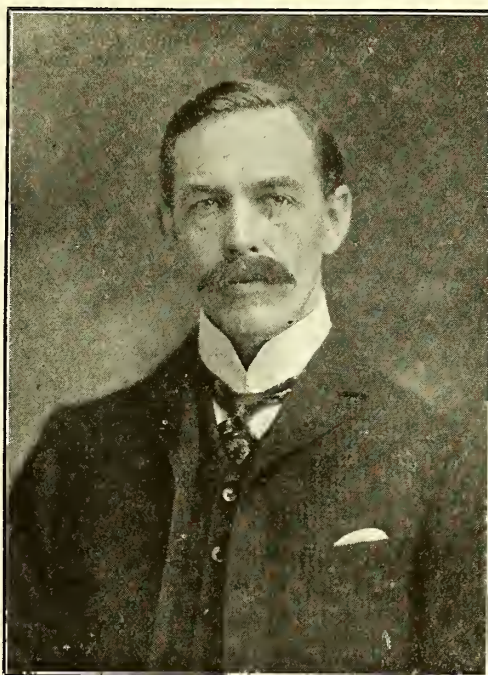
DELETION WOULD BE A DISTINCT GAIN.

There are even some drugs which are largely used in our Pharmacopœias that do not possess the actions with which they are credited. Sarsaparilla is popularly believed to be the greatest blood-purifier ever discovered, and an eminent medical man described it as "the great restorer of appetite, flesh, colour, strength, and vigour." He did not believe it has any such action. It is very doubtful, indeed, if the principles contained in it are absorbed from the alimentary canal. And as regards that anomaly in

their Pharmacopœia the concentrated liquor of sarsaparilla, the most serviceable ingredient in it is probably the liquorice-root. Senega, he believed, is a much overrated drug. It is frequently prescribed in certain forms of bronchitis, but, as far as his experience went, invariably with other remedies. They did not know the effects to be obtained from this drug alone in this condition, and pharmacological experiment does not lend much support to the view that its good effects more than counterbalance its undesirable actions. Such drugs, unless they can be proved to be of value, should be deleted from a Pharmacopœia. A fault of Pharmacopœias of equal if not greater importance is the

UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION OF DRUGS.

Duplication of drugs used for their bitter or astringent action seems advisable, but is often carried to an unnecessary extent. They could get along with one pure bitter if there were a sufficiency of flavouring agents, but he did not advocate that course. As instances of unnecessary duplica-



*Introduced with fully
C.R. Marshall*

tion he referred to the mention in the U.S.P. of sulphate and nitrate of strychnine, which for therapeutic purposes may be said to be identical. The nitrate is more active than the sulphate because it contains, weight for weight, rather more strychnine, but the difference is of no therapeutic importance. The only reason for introducing two such salts into a Pharmacopœia is a difference in solubility sufficient to affect their actions or to prove of use in administration, or one which will allow of different desirable combinations. Neither of these exists. The difference in solubility between the two is of no value. He mentioned as a similar instance nitrate and hydrochloride of pilocarpine; while another example was the inclusion of an iron and quinine citrate and a so-called soluble iron and quinine citrate, the only difference between them being that one is more quickly soluble in water than the other. The U.S.P., like our own Pharmacopœia, contains jaborandi-leaves and a preparation of jaborandi-leaves which is termed a fluid extract. The pharmacological action of jaborandi-leaves is due solely to the pilocarpine they contain, and therefore unless the preparation made from the leaves can be shown to possess some advantages over the pure alkaloidal salt, its inclusion and that of the crude drug seems unnecessary. The only advantages a preparation of the crude drug could possess over the pure principle are a gentler and more prolonged action and a more extensive compatibility; but it has the decided disadvantage of being somewhat less certain in action notwithstanding the fact that it is standardised. In preparations the same principle holds good: unnecessary multiplication should be avoided. As an instance he mentioned concentrated liquor and tincture of quassia in the B.P.

NOT TOO INCLUSIVE A WORK.

He combated the view which had been maintained that since a Pharmacopœia is made primarily for the benefit of the medical profession it should contain all the drugs a medical man may wish to use. If that view were carried out, it would make a Pharmacopœia a colossal dictionary of drugs and preparations which, however good it might be as a work of reference, would be of little use to the medical profession at large. It would lead to the excessive duplication of remedies and the officialising of unnecessary drugs. However desirable the principle may be that protection in the form of an official description, a standard of purity, etc., should be given to medical men employing certain drugs, it is still more desirable that a Pharmacopœia should be kept within reasonable limits; because medical men acquire what knowledge they possess of the Pharmacopœia almost solely during their student-days, and a large Pharmacopœia is a serious task to a medical student. To extend the teaching of the subject would put an unnecessarily heavy strain upon the student without giving him any commensurate advantage as a practitioner.

It does not seem a sufficient reason that because a drug is prescribed by a few, or even by many, medical men it should be introduced into a Pharmacopœia. The only claim to admission should be a difference in action, qualitative or quantitative, which renders the drug of greater service to therapeutics than any drug already official, or a difference in composition which makes it more generally compatible with other drugs with which it is likely to be administered. In summing up this aspect of the question, Professor Marshall said that although he was far from raising the cry of "one action, one drug," nevertheless he thought that the more they avoided unnecessary duplication of drugs and preparations, and the more they limited the official substances to drugs having definite and known actions, the better it would be for therapeutics. Regarded in that light, he did not think the Pharmacopœial Convention of the United States could be wholly congratulated. There are many substances in its Pharmacopœia which it is difficult to conceive are worthy of a place. His second point had reference to the

OFFICIAL DESCRIPTIONS OF SUBSTANCES,

and these, he thought, should be as succinct as possible. They did not expect their Pharmacopœias to be treatises on chemistry or pharmacognosy. What is wanted is a description of a drug sufficient for complete identification, as far as possible its solubilities in various media, a standard of purity which can be obtained commercially, and information

with regard to storage. In this respect Pharmacopœias leave much to be desired. They give us information which is not to the point, and sometimes misleading. Having given instances of this defect from the B.P., he said it is immaterial how a substance is prepared provided it conforms to a definite standard of purity. The United States Convention had recognised that principle. It would be difficult to improve on the method it has adopted for defining official substances. In the matter of tests, the U.S.P., like other Pharmacopœias, seems to be overburdened. The introduction of tests of identity which are not characteristic is a questionable procedure. As an example he mentioned the colour-test given by pilocarpine salts with sulphuric acid and potassium bichromate. The same test is given for cinchonidine sulphate. The only difference is that in the latter case a yellowish-green colour is said to develop first which becomes grass-green on standing. Most men would obtain that result with pilocarpine nitrate or hydrochloride, and if such tests are given their value should be indicated. Again, if characteristic tests exist, other tests, except for special purposes, are unnecessary. Professor Marshall next pointed out that under Atropine the U.S.P. gives the melting-points of the gold salts of atropine, hyoscyamine, and hyoscyne, and later a colorimetric test, to differentiate between these three alkaloids. One of these methods is unnecessary, and he was inclined to believe it is the colorimetric one. He would like to see more work done specially for a Pharmacopœia, and under the auspices of its authorities, and less dependence on outside and sporadic help. Everything in a Pharmacopœia should be put to the test by men well qualified and specially appointed for the task, even if the work may have been done by others before. Only in this way can that degree of infallibility be reached which, in view of the position it occupies, it is necessary for a Pharmacopœia to assume.

PREPARATIONS.

Speaking of these, the professor said they should be as simple as possible, be prepared in the most economical way, having regard to therapeutic efficiency, and the members of the same class of preparations should approach each other as near as possible in degree of pharmacological activity. The diluted mineral acids, for example, should be of chemically equivalent strengths, because their action is due to the concentration of hydrogen-ions and to their power of neutralising bases. This point the U.S.P. has overlooked. Similarly tinctures should be made to have, as far as possible, a uniform dosage. He did not see the necessity of some merely diluted preparations. Nor did he look with favour on many compound preparations. It would be no loss if all the mixtures in our Pharmacopœia were deleted. They may be excellent in their way, but they appear to form the thin edge of the wedge which breaks open the principle that prescriptions should be adapted to the patient, and not the patient to prescriptions. What is required is more efficient teaching in prescribing, not a multitude of preparations.

STANDARDISATION.

There is practically unanimity of opinion on this point. Medical men certainly require uniformity in the medicines they use, and the strenuous endeavours which have been made by pharmacists to meet this requirement show that with them, too, the matter is no mere academic question. The United States Convention has taken a decided step forward, and the number of preparations in its Pharmacopœia which have been standardised has been notably increased; but still there is much to be done. He did not think that they should rest content until everything in a Pharmacopœia has been reduced to a comparatively constant standard which has reference to pharmacological activity, and not merely to chemical composition. He would not advocate extensive pharmacological standardisation, but any standardisation which is made official should have the value of a pharmacological standardisation; and the only way in which an efficient standardisation can be obtained is by the collaboration of the pharmacologist and the chemist. Although he regarded pharmacological standardisation as being officially undesirable, he thought that it is a commercial necessity at the present time. Only by pharmacological methods can some of our medicines be obtained of approximately uniform strength. Much can be done on simple tissues or

organs—e.g., preparations of digitalis can be roughly standardised in this way, and consequently the commercial tincture should not show that extreme variability in action which so often characterises it.

WITH REGARD TO DOSAGE,

he preferred the method adopted in the B.P. to that employed in the United States or other Pharmacopœias. A Pharmacopœia should endeavour to indicate what is the smallest dose which is likely to prove useful to an adult, and the largest dose which it is advisable to give, rather than mention what may be regarded as an average dose. In the case of quinine sulphate, for example, the U.S.P. gives the dose as 4 grains. But this is much too large as a bitter, and is generally too small to be sufficiently effective in malaria. Consequently the dose as given in our own Pharmacopœia is to be preferred. It seems undesirable that a Pharmacopœia should specify doses for definite purposes, except perhaps as emetics. The case of oil of turpentine in our own Pharmacopœia is particularly unfortunate, the large dose recommended as an anthelmintic being, unless proper precautions are taken, actually dangerous.

The professor, in concluding, again alluded to large Pharmacopœias being unnecessary for effective treatment and a serious menace to effective teaching. He had incidentally referred to a systematic corroboration of the facts in a Pharmacopœia, and, in view of the use of a Pharmacopœia as a legal standard, this seemed to him necessary. Statements such as occur in the B.P. that aqueous solutions of arsenious iodide should not change the colour of solution of litmus, that solutions of tartarated antimony should be precipitated by solution of tannic acid but not by gallic acid, and the description given of diluted nitro-hydrochloric acid should not be possible. They would not be if all statements were verified by someone specially deputed to do so on the part of the pharmacopœial authorities. He said he is not insensible to the good work which is being done by private individuals, and especially by members of this Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society. Even without State aid, he believed that, with the enthusiasm and disinterestedness which have always characterised British research, and with the present President of the General Medical Council as guide, the next British Pharmacopœia will be one of which they might be justly proud.

VOTE OF THANKS.

The address was most attentively listened to, and Mr. J. P. GILMOUR, in moving a vote of thanks to Professor Marshall, said he had rarely listened to an address which showed such a keen appreciation of the interest they had in improving the Pharmacopœia.

Dr. SILLAR, in seconding the motion, said members of the medical profession were in no sense agreed (so far as their prescribing shows) what portions of the Pharmacopœia are necessary or what unnecessary. In this connection he recalled an incident in which he was a member of an Examining Board and had prepared specimens of medicinal substances on which the students were to be examined. He left out one which he regarded as extremely valueless, and as constituting a useless burden on the mind of the student. They might imagine his surprise when another examiner from London asked why there was no specimen of this particular substance, and when he (Dr. Sillar) replied that he regarded it as absolutely useless, was met with the rejoinder, "My dear sir, don't you know that it is enormously prescribed in London at present for rheumatism?" Dr. Sillar also thought that Professor Marshall, imbued as he is with the scientific spirit, rather left out the element of human nature, which delights in the unknown and the marvellous.

Professor MARSHALL having replied, the proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

MESSRS. W. B. FORDHAM & SONS, LTD., 36 York Road, King's Cross, London, N., have just published a chemists' and druggists' sundries-list which they will send to our subscribers on application. This firm are now offering very attractive novelties in side-lines, some of which, figured in their advertisement this week, are suitable for Christmas trade.

Chemical Society.

A MEETING was held at Burlington House, W., on Thursday, November 16, Professor R. Meldola, F.R.S., presiding. The first paper, entitled

SILICON RESEARCHES—PART IX.,

was read by Dr. Emerson Reynolds, who gave an account of the bromo-derivatives obtained by the action of bromine on the silicophenylimide and silicophenylamide, which he described recently to the Society. These bromo-derivatives are extremely viscous bodies, and retain the glassy structure apparently characteristic of silicon derivatives. The author pointed out that these comparatively simple derivatives of silicon nitride bring us within easy reach of what everybody would agree is a very objectionable compound—to wit, SiN. Dr. Reynolds' little joke having been duly appreciated, the attention of the Fellows was next directed to the

CONDENSATION OF MERCURY CYANIDE WITH KETONES,

which was dealt with by Messrs. Marsh and Struthers. The authors observed that when a strong aqueous solution of mercuric cyanide is added to methylated spirit a voluminous white precipitate is formed, which is a "condensation" product of acetone with the cyanide. This reaction is extremely delicate, and may be used for the detection of acetone. Similar compounds are produced by the action of the cyanide on other ketones containing the CH_3CO group. These authors were succeeded by Dr. Barger, who described a modification of his microscopic method of determining molecular weight whereby it can be used with high-boiling solvents. This consists in the use of a small jacket holding water at 90°C . to enclose the observation capillary tube. In this way the vapour-tensions of the high-boiling solvents can be increased sufficiently to enable observations to be made in reasonable times. The next paper dealt with the

GREEN COMPOUNDS OF COBALT

produced by oxidising-agents, and was read by Dr. Tilden in the absence of the author, Mr. R. G. Durrant. It was shown that these green salts, produced by the addition of hydrogen peroxide to ordinary cobalt salts, are not, as has been previously supposed, either a cobalt carbonate or salts of a cobalt acid, but are merely salts of cobaltic oxide, Co_2O_3 .

THE RUSTING OF IRON

was the subject of the next contribution, which was a critical "note" by Dr. Divers on Dunstan, Jowett, and Goulding's paper on this subject, which was printed as a "vacation paper" in the October number of the Society's "Journal." Dr. Divers accepts the results put forward by these authors, which show that carbon dioxide is not essential to the rusting of iron, but he disagrees with the theory they advance that the immediate agent in the rusting of iron is hydrogen peroxide, and prefers instead the view that the "rust" is produced by the simultaneous action on the iron of oxygen and hydroxyl ions. In a reply appended to Dr. Divers' "note," Professor Dunstan stated that there was in reality very little difference between the explanation put forward by Dr. Divers and that advanced by himself and his collaborators, but that the latter did explain satisfactorily the formation of hydrogen peroxide actually observed in the "rusting" of zinc. In the discussion which followed, Dr. Moody, who holds strongly what is known as the "carbonic-acid theory" of rusting, stated that he hoped in the course of a few weeks to bring before the Society proof that iron will not rust in the absence of carbon dioxide.

The last paper read was one by Dr. Philip and Mr. C. Smith on the melting-point curves of resorcinol and other phenols.

THE MERIDIAN DRUG & ESSENCE CO., Bond Street, Durban, have just completed their well-equipped steam laboratories, which are under the charge of a pharmaceutical chemist of Great Britain. The company are manufacturing all kinds of galenic preparations and spirituous products, these latter including standardised preparations of the British Pharmacopœia. Soluble essences and perfumery are specialties of the company.

Marriages.

CHRISTY—POZZONI.—At Epiphany Church, Washington, on November 15, Gilbert Christy, son of the late Mr. Thomas Christy, F.L.S., to Josephine Angeline, youngest daughter of the late Mr. J. A. Pozzoni, of St. Louis, U.S.A.

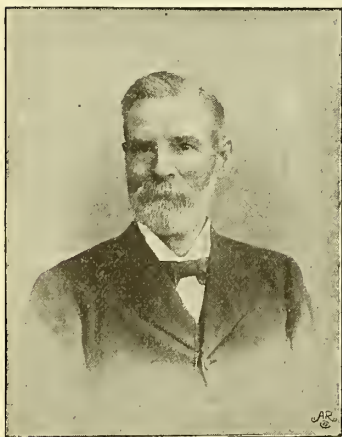
GROSSMITH—DOTTI.—At Dresden, on November 8, John Lipscomb Grossmith, C.C., of The Grange, Bickley, Kent, and Newgate Street, London, to Marie Antoinette (Nenette), younger daughter of the late Mr. George Dotti, of Dresden.

VINCENT—PUGH.—At St. Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta, on October 25, by the Rev. Canon Tuckman, M.A., Sydney William Vincent, chemist and druggist (manager of the drug, photographic, and optical department of the Army and Navy Stores, Calcutta), youngest son of Mr. Lacey Vincent, chemist, Walton, Norfolk, to Eleanor Grace, youngest daughter of the late Mr. John Pugh, of Cranleigh, Burlington Road, Birkdale.

Deaths.

GILBERT.—At 27 Hyde Terrace, Leeds, on November 17, Mr. Ernest Albert Gilbert, late of Sydney, Australia, partner in the firm of the Bile Bean Manufacturing Co., Leeds, aged thirty. Mr. Gilbert was born in England, and as a boy went to Australia. At nineteen he became manager to Messrs. Eley & Co., Sydney. He afterwards became associated in partnership with Mr. Charles Fulford, who was acting as Australian manager of the Williams's Pink Pill business for his uncle, the late Mr. George T. Fulford. In 1896 Mr. Gilbert and Mr. C. Fulford placed "Bile Beans" on the market, and after two years' business in Australia, the firm commenced operations in England, making Leeds their headquarters. Mr. Gilbert possessed great organising abilities, and they had excellent scope in this venture, which largely through him was carried to success. The funeral took place at Lawnswood Cemetery, Leeds, on November 21.

GILMOUR.—At 9 Inverleith Row, Edinburgh, on November 16, from a paralytic seizure, Mr. William Gilmour, J.P., F.R.S.E., pharmaceutical chemist, aged sixty-two. It is difficult for any but Scotch pharmacists of the 1870-90 period to realise what the name of Gilmour has meant in Scotch pharmacy during the past forty years. There were four brothers of that name in the trade—the eldest (John) in business in Burntisland, the next (William) in Edinburgh, a third (James) left pharmacy for the ministry of the United Presbyterian Church, and the fourth (David) is now in business in Dunfermline, and is a



member of the Board of Examiners for Scotland. It was Mr. William Gilmour who made the name familiar to every young Scotch chemist, and although he was not a very old man at his death, he had been half a century in the business. His unrelenting and hard work, mental and physical, had undoubtedly much to do with the comparatively early breakdown in his health. Mr. Gilmour was the son of a Fifehire farmer, and when twelve years old he was apprenticed to the late Gavin Stiell, pharmaceutical chemist, Dunfermline. His apprenticeship finished, he crossed over to Edinburgh about 1860, having obtained a situation as assistant in the pharmacy of Lindsay & Shaw, 11 Elm Row, then owned by Mr. Lindsay, whose former partner, Mr. Shaw, had removed to Liverpool. While an assistant Mr. Gilmour passed the Minor and Major examinations (the latter in 1867). On the death of Mr. Lindsay he

became a partner in the business, which thenceforth was carried on under the firm-name of Lindsay & Gilmour, and in the 'eighties he acquired the share held in it by Mr. Lindsay's family. He was later joined in partnership by his second son, William. As a comparatively young man Mr. Gilmour participated in the work of the Pharmaceutical Society in Scotland, and in June 1871 was appointed a member of the Board of Examiners for Scotland, holding this position for nearly twenty-one years. From the first he gave distinction to the position, and was equal to the advances which were made in the requirements from time to time, especially in his own subject, chemistry. He was thorough in his methods, and delighted in the Major examination, the work of which he always kept strictly to pharmaceutical needs, for he held the opinion strongly that there is in pharmacy sufficient scope for testing the candidate's knowledge of the science without requiring him to show intimacy with its applications in other industries. In the Society's executive work he also did good service. He entered the Council of the North British Branch in 1869, and was appointed President in 1873, succeeding Mr. J. R. Young, who and Mr. James Buchanan are the sole survivors of the Board of Examiners of that year. Mr. Gilmour held the presidency for several years, and later on (1888) succeeded Dr. H. B. Baildon in the Chairmanship of the Executive of the reconstituted Branch. For nearly a quarter of a century Mr. Gilmour's name was one of the most familiar as a contributor to the literature of the business. He was an ardent student of physics, and devoted several years in the 'seventies to work with the spectroscope in its application to pharmaceutical chemistry, including the examination of oils, tinctures, and other liquids which afford chlorophyll bands. In 1884 he contributed a paper to the North British Branch on tincture of hyoscyamus, and followed this up by a more exhaustive one in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST (June 1884, p. 273), which made clear what varieties of henbane were on the market. Up to that time the presence of flowers in the commercial drug was regarded as evidence of it being from the second year's growth, and the opacity of a mixture of the tincture and water was similarly taken to be sure proof of the drug being the right thing. Both of these ideas Mr. Gilmour proved to be erroneous. The subjects upon which he wrote were many. He was a keen observer, and in his pharmacy always had some experimental work going on, so that it was possible for him to write a paper almost at a moment's notice. During the 'eighties he was a regular contributor to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. At one time he was also frequently consulted in regard to scientific matters by journals published in Edinburgh. Shortly after his retirement from the Board of Examiners, Mr. Gilmour had a paralytic seizure, of which there had been premonitions while he was on the Board, and he had another before the last and fatal one, which came on shortly after tea-time on November 16, and he expired in two hours. In consequence of his paralysed condition (latterly the power of speech had almost left him) the business has been managed by Mr. William Gilmour, jun., but he took a keen interest in affairs up to the time of his death. Mr. Gilmour is survived by Mrs. Gilmour, one daughter, and four sons, the eldest of whom, Dr. John R. Gilmour, F.R.C.P.E., is medical superintendent of the West Riding Asylum, Burley-in-Wharfedale. The funeral took place at Rosebank on Monday, and was attended by a large number of mourners, including representatives of the Edinburgh drug-trade.

MCNEILAGE.—At Beith, on November 15, Mr. Alexander McNeillage, chemist and druggist, of 46 Ann Street, Greenock.

MORRELL.—At 1 South Street, Islington, N., on November 17, Mr. Thomas Morrell, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-two. Mr. Morrell's illness was of short duration, and the news of his death came as a shock to many of his friends. He carried on business for over half a century.

SAUNDERS.—At Carvalla Lodge, Wandle Road, Upper Tooting, S.W., on November 17, Mr. James Touzeau Saunders, perfumer, 312 Oxford Street, W., aged eighty-two. Before establishing the business in Oxford Street, some fifty years ago, Mr. Saunders was connected with another old-established West-end perfumery-house—that of Messrs. R. Hendrie & Co. Shortly after commencing for

himself Mr. Saunders placed two preparations on the market—"Saunders's Face-powder" and "Guards Hair-dye"—which acquired considerable reputation and have been handled by chemists for the past forty years. Mr. Saunders attended at Oxford Street up till within a week of his death. He is succeeded by his son, Mr. Arthur James Saunders, who was his father's partner for many years. A son of Mr. Arthur Saunders is also in the business, so that there is little probability of the firm of "James Touzeau Saunders" becoming extinct for some time to come. The funeral took place at Wandsworth Cemetery on November 22.

SQUINCE.—At Romanby Road, Northallerton, on November 15, Mr. John Abbot Squince, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-seven. Mr. Squince relinquished pharmacy fourteen years ago to succeed his father as Master of the Northallerton Workhouse.

UMNEY.—At 37 Regent's Park Road, N.W., on November 19, Charles Keith, younger son of John Charles and Constance Umney, aged nearly two years.

Recent Wills.

FLETCHER.—Mr. Francis Round Fletcher, Orsett House, Dennis Park, Oldswinford, Staffs, retired chemist, who died on September 30, left estate valued at 4,888*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.* gross, and at 3,114*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* net. Probate of his will dated November 28, 1903, with codicils of April 3, 1905, and July 21, 1905, has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Maude Fletcher, and Mr. Albert Edward Longmore, West Bromwich, to the last named of whom the testator bequeathed 25*l.* He left 10*s.* a week to his mother, Mrs. Mary Fletcher, for life, and the income from his residuary estate to his wife for life, and on the death of the survivor of his mother and his wife, he left the ultimate residue of his estate in equal shares to his children.

FYVIE.—Mr. James Gray Fyvie, retired pharmaceutical chemist, of Coleraine, Londonderry, and Elm Hill, Aberdeen (formerly of Lindsay and Gilmour, Edinburgh), who died at Aberdeen on June 6 last, left personal estate in the United Kingdom valued at 5,782*l.* The testator left the whole of his estate to his wife for life, with remainder to his children, Charles Donaldson Fyvie, James Robert Given Fyvie, and Catherine Maria Sarah Fyvie, or other children born after the date of the will, in equal shares.

GILLIES.—Mr. John Whitfield Gillies, chemist and druggist, 9 Tunstall Terrace, Sunderland, who died on October 20, left estate of the gross value of 998*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* Probate of his will has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Mary Ann Gillies, and Mr. W. C. Pike, cashier, Sunderland.

HAMP.—Mr. John Hamp, pharmaceutical chemist, Hanley, Staffs, and formerly of Wolverhampton, who died on July 15, aged seventy-seven years, left estate valued at 1,737*l.* 16*s.* gross, and probate of his will has been granted to his daughter, Mrs. Emily Jane Hurst, wife of the Rev. Albert Edward Hurst, of Hanley.

HARGRAVE.—Mr. Spence Hargrave, chemist, Hulme and Stretford, Manchester, who died on March 15 last, left estate valued at 7,126*l.* 3*s.* gross, and probate of his will has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Alice Annie Hargrave, his brother, Mr. W. W. Hargrave, dentist, Southport, and his son, Mr. Walter Hargrave, dentist. He bequeathed to his wife 100*l.* and his household effects absolutely, with the income from his residuary estate for life, and subject to her interest he left the ultimate residue to his children in equal shares, but the portions of his daughters are to be held in trust for remoter issue.

HUGHES.—The will of Mr. Thomas Hughes, Llandilo, Carmarthen, chemist and druggist, who died on September 19 last, aged eighty-one, has been proved, and shows estate valued at 8,324*l.* 6*s.* gross, and at 1,693*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* net. Mr. Hughes bequeathed 500*l.* each to his daughters Jane, Frances, and Gertrude Hughes; 10*l.* each to the executors of his will; and he left his business as a chemist and druggist to his wife for life, with his residuary estate, and, subject to her interest and certain provisions, he left the ultimate residue of his estate to his children in equal shares.

POWER.—Mr. Joseph Power, of 40 Garbutt Street, and 1 Victoria Terrace, Stockton-on-Tees, druggists' sundriesman, at one time a member of the Board of Guardians and the Borough Education Committee, who died on September 15 last, aged forty-nine, left estate valued at 434*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*, and the sole executrix of his will is his widow, Mrs. Margaret Power.

Business Changes.

BRAND'S DRUG-STORES have been opened at 222 Mile End Road, E.

WILKINS' DRUG-STORES have been opened at 60 Mile End Road, E.

HILL'S DRUG-STORES have been opened at 14 Caledonian Road, Islington, N.

THE WARDOUR DRUG-STORES have been opened at 166 Wardour Street, Oxford Street, W.

MR. W. LLEWELLYN, chemist and druggist, is about to open a business at Tonypandy.

THE COLLEGE PHARMACY is about to be opened at 1 Crowndale Road, Camden Town, N.W.

MR. G. R. FOULSTON, chemist and druggist, of Hull and Burnham, Bucks, is opening a business at High Street, Slough.

THE business of Mr. J. Knight, pharmaceutical chemist, at Rendevouz Street, Folkestone, has been purchased by Boots, Ltd.

MR. E. BENNETT, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business at Victoria Road, Seacombe, Cheshire, formerly carried on by Mr. Edward Hinkley, chemist and druggist.

MR. W. H. MAUNDER, pharmaceutical chemist, of Taunton, is removing his business to larger and more convenient premises at No. 81 East Reach, a few doors from his present place of business.

MESSRS. HARTLEY'S, cash chemists and photographic dealers, of Nelson, Lancs, have purchased the business lately carried on by Walker's Drug Co. at 59 St. James' Street, Burnley. Mr. Tom H. Hartley, chemist and druggist, will manage this branch.

WE mentioned a few weeks ago rumours of an amalgamation between two old-established wholesale drug-houses on the north side of the Thames, which we were able to state were incorrect. Arrangements are, however, being made by one of these houses to join with another well-known and old-established London house. Full particulars of this amalgamation will be given next week.

Personalities.

MR. J. O. DEVEREUX, the new Mayor of Southwark, with his wife, won the famous Dumnov Fitch four years ago.

MR. CHARLES W. WHITE, F.R.G.S., leaves this week *via* Brindisi for Bombay, joining the *Arabia* at Port Said. He will be in Bombay by December 8.

MR. H. ANTCLIFFE, head dispenser, Sheffield Union, has been elected a member of the Council of the South Yorkshire Poor-law Officers' Association.

MR. HENRY S. WELLCOME has been appointed an additional member of the General Council of the Gordon Memorial College at Khartoum. Sir William Maker and Sir Henry Craik were also appointed at the same time.

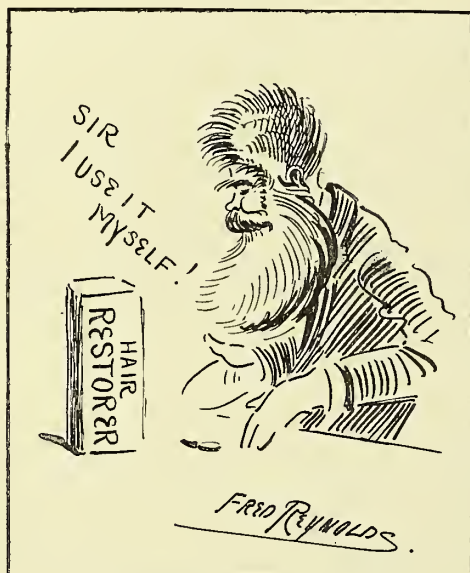
MR. T. E. HARRISON, chemist and druggist, has been elected, for the second time, President of the Sleaford Tradesmen's Association; Mr. W. Spyvie, chemist and druggist, again being elected Vice-President.

MR. COUNCILLOR A. F. BARNARD, chemist, 88 Columbia Road, E., on Wednesday gave an address on "The Political Situation" at the Olga Road L.C.C. School, under the auspices of the N.E. Bethnal Green Liberal and Radical Association.

MR. H. E. EBBAGE, F.S.M.C., chemist and druggist, has relinquished the management of Durbin's drug-stores, Kingston-on-Thames, and has arranged to devote his attention entirely to sight-testing at their various branches in the S.W. district.

CONFERENCE visitors to Brighton this year will be interested to know that a silver-cradle presentation was made last week to Alderman and Mrs. F. Blaker (Mayor and Mayoress), a daughter having been born during the mayoralty. The gifts consisted of two handsome centre-pieces, case of cutlery, necklace and pendant, with gold chain and gold watch. For the baby, gold watch, silver fork and spoon, and serviette-ring; 170*l.* had been collected for the presents.

Conundrum Column.



Botanical Problem, III.

What part of a plant is represented by the above sketch?
 Replies should take the form of verses such as are given in this column. We pay 1s. for each verse that we print.

Last week's sketch depicted the root. The only difficulty arising from it appears to be our own, which is selecting from the pile of verses sent in a sufficiently small number to fit the space at our command.

A scene in the C.S.S. Store.
 No dentist they'll want any more
 Save the one that's their own;
 For it's very well known
 He's extracting such roots by the score. F. M. WILSON.

With this molar I've suffered for months, on and off;
 I've spent a small fortune on ol. caryoph.
 It has racked my poor frame from my hair to my boots;
 So I'm glad to be rid of these carious roots. D. W. LYALL.

A Scotsman, with pains which did shoot
 Through his tooth, said, "I maun hae it oot.
 If ye've drawn it, I think
 We micht hae a drink. P. I.
 Hoot, toot! Ay, it's oot, by the root."

Fred Reynolds was moved to the chair
 By the dentist who lives over there.
 "By gum!" said the latter
 When Fred's teeth went clatter,
 "Such a root I ne'er saw, I declare." W. (Limerick).

The dentist tries his might to gain
 The aching tooth with all his main;
 His victim doth shout,
 But tho forceps are out
 With the root, the cause of his pain.
 (Miss) G. G. M. FARRER.

Your sketch to my mind's a root,
 And calls sad reflections to boot.
 For the man in the chair
 Looks as though he could swear,
 For his tooth's out right by the root. J. PUDDETHA.

A wealthy old party named Boot
 Had a tooth taken out by the root
 By a chemist—smart man—
 Who goes "Nap" when he can,
 For he charged half a sov. as his loot. J. LOCK.

Surveying in agony mute
 The source of his toothache acute,
 The patient perceives,
 Though quite lacking leaves,
 A tooth, like a plant, has a root. PHAROS.

To Dr. Morley.



He had no remedy for unemployment. He did not pretend that he could write a prescription which, if it were made up at the political chemist's, would result in there being no more unemployed. But he had tried to indicate a remedy when he condemned the waste of war.—Mr. John Morley at Walthamstow, November 20, 1905.

Perhaps you'll write us, Honest John
 (When you have cured the unemployed),
 A good prescription which anon
 May ease an aching, yawning void.

For countless years we've suffered sore
 From a distemper—Pharmacy.
 We've had physicians by the score,
 But they so often disagree.

Keen specialists have watched our case
 And wrangled o'er it day by day;
 We've looked Professors in the face
 And fled the "One-and-Only Way."

We've tried the "cure" in Lancasheer,
 At Cardiff, Glasgow, Aberdeen:
 They all produced convulsions queer,
 But none of any use has been.

The symptoms? Dreams of rosy hue;
 Then years of coma supervened;
Bacilli limitadi grew
 In millions—by the Legists screened.

Our Own Physician came and looked,
 And wagged his chin, and took his fee,
 And smiled as we expertly hooked
 The apples from the studentree.

We've thrust our strongest to the fore,
 And watched the fitful fever rise,
 Then shrunk before the fatal snore
 Of antidotal Organise.

Anon the Blackburn serum scare
 Put languid persons in a fuss,
 Until we found, to our despair,
 Th' inventor mute with tetanus.

With doses large of Anti-Glinn
 We tried to stave the dread collapse;
 And Wotan's serum—watered thin—
 May mitigate the pain—perhaps.

But what we want is, Doctor John
 (We seek it with a smile demure),
 An Anti-Jesse-toxicon,
 To work a thaumaturgic cure.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

"Cosmopolite's" Figures,

and the inferences he draws from them, are worthy of close study. He shows that the proportion of youths who start on a pharmaceutical career but never become qualified is larger than perhaps most of us would have expected. Taking the past twenty years, it appears that an average of 709 pass the Preliminary examination annually, while only 508 find themselves on the right side of the Minor. "Cosmopolite" estimates that about half of the missing 200 have tried to pass the Qualifying examination, and failed; the other half apparently do not even try. Of these some have drifted into other businesses or professions, some go abroad, some die. But after all allowances the proportion is unquestionably large. It may be assumed as certain that most of the failures go to swell the crowd of the unqualified which is already over-recruited from the men who never even pass the Preliminary. "Cosmopolite's" statistics further show that the number of persons entering the business—that is, those entering it by the legitimate gateway—is steadily declining, and I gather from his language that he regards this as at least a sort of a calamity. He particularly argues that the condition is financially serious for the Pharmaceutical Society, and this, at all events, cannot be disputed. It is a pity for many reasons that the Society should be crippled as it is evidently going to be. On the other hand, a few years of frugality will do it no harm. It has for many years spent money lavishly, but it cannot be said that the bulk of the expenditure has been made for the benefit of pharmacy generally.

Duly Sympathising

with the Pharmaceutical Society, and still more with the unfortunates who find themselves shut out from the full exercise of the occupation for which they have half fitted themselves, I still fail to find just cause for condolence with the qualified persons themselves, or with the trade generally, on the evidence of shrinkage in their ranks. Bookkeeping experts say that every debit must have a corresponding credit. Here the Society's loss and the hard lines of the undesirables are balanced by the advantage gained by those who have secured their footing. That seems superficially obvious, but at this point the *C. & D.* editorially springs a new alarm on us. It is suggested that the growth of the unqualified section is dangerous because it will ultimately swamp its qualified rival. It cannot be said that this apprehension is altogether fanciful in these days when votes count for so much, and when an unqualified vote is undistinguishable from the other sort. Moreover, the Register of 1868 and the Irish Chemists and Druggists Act of 1890 are quoted as analogous precedents. But in those instances, and in all others, special qualification has always retained legislative advantages, not to mention the intrinsic value of the certified superior knowledge which should be a real asset unless examinations are absolute farces.

Mr. John Morgan Richards

has figured for so many years at the head of the American Colony in London in the medicine-trade that his book of reminiscences, reviewed last week, was anticipated with no little interest by many of those who have had business relations with him. These, if they looked for anything like details of Mr. Richards's remarkable success in furing the British public to buy the medicines for which he is agent, or if they parted with sixteen shillings in the hope of getting a guinea tip for their own guidance,

are, I fear, doomed to disappointment. Mr. Richards alludes to his business just enough to show what the occupation of his life has been; he tells of the excellencies of the gentlemen who have been good enough to invent the remedies which he has disseminated; comments occasionally on advertising here and in the United States (in dealing with the comparative veracity of British and Americans, the balance inclining a little in our favour, Mr. Richards drily remarks that he has known it "waver" a little in both countries when the circulation of an advertising-medium was in question); adds an affectionate testimonial to "the enterprise and genius" of Mr. Jesse Boot, which "both American and British proprietors have good reason to appreciate"; but, as the reviewer pointed out last week, makes no specific mention of any of his medicinal specialities from one end of his book to the other. No doubt it would have been bad taste to drag them in, especially if this could not have been done without an allusion to their merits; but, for all that, even the most casual reader must feel that there is something lacking in the narrative of the fifty years which separate the New York office-boy with 10s. a week of 1855, from the owner of Steephill Castle, where "years ago Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort were constant visitors, and where the Empress of Austria came to reside for a season," of 1905. Before criticising one or two of the opinions expressed in "With John Bull and Jonathan," I should like to admit cordial agreement with the verdict of the reviewer last week as to the pleasant humour and acute observations which characterise the book all through. To that may be added that in its 300 pages of personal reflections there is not a line of unpleasant egotism. The author is revealed as a man of hereditary Puritan tendencies which still exercise their influence, but which have been tempered by intercourse with the world, and perhaps by prosperity. But the comments which abound on people and things in America and England are invariably kind, fair, shrewd, and well informed. It is difficult to find much to argue about. But there are one or two points.

The Secret of the Success

of a proprietary medicine, Mr. Morgan Richards assures us, lies in its merit. In his view "No proprietary article has any lasting value nor enriches the inventor unless possessing undoubted merit." It does not pay to advertise an article unless the purchaser of it once comes again and again for it. That is doubtless true, but it is not the whole truth, and the inference suggested is too modest. The real art of the advertiser is left out of sight for the moment. There is merit in every drug, but in the vast majority of cases the medicine "inventor's" skill consists not in the discovery of that merit, but in persuading the public to pay a fancy price for it. There is first, and least of all, the price of the meritorious drug itself; then comes the cost of the persuasion; and, lastly, the reward which the "inventor" thinks fit to ascribe to himself. There is nothing to object to, economically, in a fancy price for an invention, however trifling, but in this case the purchaser is paying for one invention when he is induced to think he is paying for another. Elsewhere Mr. Richards denounces the expressions "good luck" and "bad luck." "They represent no principles which have any existence in fact." "An unlucky man is one who is entirely responsible for his own bad luck." How supremely unjust to allege the responsibility of every poor beggar for his failure to foresee every move in a world crowded with uncertainties, where nobody knows what will be the price of Consols tomorrow, and where a Government Department cannot foretell the weather of the next twenty-four hours!

"Does the road wind up-hill all the way?"
"Yes, to the very end."

Not in the sense of Miss Rosetti's poem has the road to Steephill Castle pursued its gentle ascent for fifty years. But myriads of hardworking, honest, patient plodders have toiled up their hills and found no castle waiting for their reception at the top. Some stepped on a piece of false ground and fell into a chasm. How foolish of them; and how wise of the others who did not happen to step on the same spot!

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No. 1 Finest Pure FULLER'S EARTH (Light Colour)	15/ cwt.	Finest Levigated "WHITE EARTH" (Toilet purposes).	18/ cwt.
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Finest Pure LIQUORICE JUICE	10/ lb.	Finest ARROWROOT	1/ lb.

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Editorial Comments.

Medicines for Russia.

RECENT events in Russia may appear to give little promise for any reform which is suggested from without, but in the matter of pharmacy the internal conditions are ripe for reform, and in respect to the importation of foreign medicines there is immediate need for some action being taken by foreign Governments who look after the interests of their merchants and manufacturers. This immediate need is the fact that the present import duty on medicines—viz.,

24 roubles per pood (*i.e.*, 1s. 4d. per lb.)—is on March 1, 1906, to be increased to 40 roubles per pood, the bottles, tins, paper, &c., in which the medicines are packed being included in this heavy charge of duty. Obviously this tax in many cases exceeds the market value of the medicines, and it is accompanied by restrictive conditions which we presently refer to. It applies to what are commonly known as galenical preparations, and not to pure chemicals or chemical preparations (upon which the duty is Rs. 2.25 cop. per pood). The German Government had an opportunity in its last commercial treaty with the Russian Government of getting the duty on imported medicines reduced; but Germany's share in the pharmaceutical preparations business of Russia is small compared with that of France, Great Britain, and the United States, while she does the bulk of the import business in chemicals. Our own share in this business is not inconsiderable, for in 1903 we exported 132,581*l.* worth of chemicals, and at least 13,189*l.* of drugs; but besides there were other items which brought up the exports to nearly 200,000*l.* We think this is worth looking after, and that there is no time better than the present. The conditions which regulate the importation of foreign medicaments into the Russian Empire might simultaneously be modified. These came into force on July 31, 1899, and are as follows:

1. Foreign medicaments of the nature of secret or proprietary preparations shall only be imported when permission has been given by the Medical Council of the Ministry of the Interior in agreement with the Ministry of Finance.

2. The Medical Council will inquire into the question of permitting the importation of those proprietary medicines only of which the details of the composition are furnished by the manufacturers thereof.

3. Foreign compounded medicaments shall only be allowed to enter Russia when they do not contain any harmful or poisonous ingredients, and when they are not prone to such rapid deterioration that would greatly change their character before reaching the consumers.

4. Before deciding whether any preparation shall enter Russia the Medical Council shall examine the chemical analytical report thereof, produced by the proprietor of the preparation, and performed in a Russian or foreign laboratory by a chemist whose competence is approved by the Medical Council.

There seems to be little doubt that these regulations were intended to apply solely to secret or proprietary medicines whose value is not acknowledged by medical science; but the Medical Council has so interpreted the regulations that every medicine—even those of foreign Pharmacopœias and of manufacturers who make no secret of their composition—is subject to them. Moreover, the action of the Medical Council is quite arbitrary, so that the decision of one day in favour of a preparation of a class may not apply next day to another of the class. The members of the Council seem to work under the idea that they exist for the purpose of preventing foreign medicaments from entering the country, whereas their instructions are drawn with the object of permitting them to enter. They also take a most narrow view of the instructions. For example, they interpret “harmful” and “poisonous” in Clause 3 to mean that if a mere trace of a strong drug exists in a preparation (*e.g.*, one grain of digitalis in 1 oz. of a medicine) it must not be imported. Further, they interpret the clause as to the deterioration to mean that any article which has deteriorated in Russia (when made there in all likelihood by old-fashioned methods) must not be imported; in other words, they apply the rule to everything that is theoretically supposed to deteriorate, and on that ground such preparations as suppositories and hypodermic injections, besides many others, are without hesitation prohibited from entering Russia. The provision for an analytical report is also worthless, for once an article is passed on such a report, there is no provision for ensuring that future imports accord with it,

and it is obvious that multiplicity of analytical reports involves manufacturers in great cost. The Medical Council could secure the same information, in fact better, by getting manufacturers to declare the constituents of their products. Altogether the conditions for importing medicines into Russia are almost prohibitive, and as far as we can gather there is no internal need for them, while they menace the progress of Russian medical practice by preventing practitioners from using freely the experience of their foreign *confrères* so far as it is expressed in the form of approved medicaments. We understand that steps have been taken to place the matter before the Russian Government by representatives of the countries chiefly interested. Mr. D. A. Ruffmann, of St. Petersburg, is actively interesting himself in the matter, and has the promise of support from representatives of France, the United States, and Austria. He suggests that some of the leading manufacturers in the United Kingdom should address the Foreign Office on the subject, as a despatch from Lord Lansdowne would have great influence at St. Petersburg, and would materially assist those who are working on the subject there. We shall be glad to give those interested further information as to what is being done in the matter in London.

Natal Spirit Law.

THE Commercial Department of the Board of Trade have received a copy of a Natal Act recently passed which amends the Excise Act, 1901. The present Act relates for the most part to regulations affecting the methylation and sale of spirits in the Colony, and contains several important alterations. Firstly, the definitions of “methylate” and “methylated spirits” in Section 3 of the principal Act are repealed, the following being substituted:

“Methylate” means to mix spirits of wine, under approved regulations, with some substance in such manner and quantity as to denaturate or render the spirits unfit for drinking.

“Methylated spirits” means spirits so mixed to the satisfaction of the Controller.

The new regulations provide for a rebate of the whole or any part of the duty on rectified spirits distilled in Natal and used by distillers or rectifiers in the manufacture of perfumery and non-potable articles, or by chemists and druggists in the preparation of medicines, perfumery, and non-potable articles, or in museums for the preservation of specimens. This appears to be the most important part of the enactment, and is one that will be appreciated by colonial wholesale houses who hope to manufacture in bond. Most of the other revisions are of a minor character, dealing with routine, and include the definition of the word “dealer” and “retailer,” these terms applying to persons selling not less than 2 gals. of wines and spirits if in cask or drums, or twelve reputed quarts or twenty-four reputed pint bottles, if in bottles. A distiller or rectifier may only sell in complete packages, such as casks, drums, or cases. Sub-section 1 of Section 48 of the 1901 Act has been repealed, and the following takes its place:

Every distiller shall, not later than the fourth day of January, April, July, and October in each year, deliver a true return in writing of the stock of spirits on hand on the first day of the preceding quarter, the gallons of wash made and distilled, the gallons at proof of spirits made, removed, and whither removed during the quarter, and the stock of spirits on hand on the last day of the quarter.

It has been made lawful (a) for a rectifier to rectify spirits under bond; (b) for a distiller to rectify and compound upon his premises spirits distilled by him on such premises; (c) for the distilling and rectifying to be performed in one

continuous operation. Section 90 of the principal Act has been repealed, and the following substituted :

Spirits may be methylated by distillers and rectifiers in such part of their licensed premises as shall be approved by the Controller, and a stock account of methylated spirits computed at proof is to be kept.

The packages must not contain less than 2 gals., and not more than 5 gals. is to be supplied to any one person in any one day. Formerly, we believe, not more than 2 gals. could be obtained. It will be seen that Natal industries are favoured by the new provisions, which compare remarkably with the aspirations of manufacturers in the Old Country.

Encyclopædia Pharmaceutica.

SOME twenty-five years ago the "National Dispensary" of Stillé and Maisch was published in the United States, and rapidly established itself as a standard work on materia medica and pharmacy. It was a huge tome of 1,630 pages, and aimed at containing in one book the natural history, chemistry, pharmacy, actions, and uses of medicines. We have in this country nothing now that compares with the dispensaries of the United States, although the idea of the books is undoubtedly due to the dispensaries which were much in vogue in Great Britain in the first half of the nineteenth century. The germ of the dispensary idea probably lies with Nicholas Culpeper, who in 1653 published a translation of the *Pharmacopœia Londinensis* "with animadversions" the pungency of which must have caused much annoyance to the Royal College of Physicians. One cannot help smiling at the contemptuous way in which old Culpeper referred to the armchair work of the College, and doubtless his criticisms spurred on the *Pharmacopœia* authorities to produce a more practical volume. William Salmon must also figure as one of the founders of the modern dispensary, but he confined himself mainly to translating the official *Pharmacopœia*, confining unofficial pharmacy to other books, such as the "*Doron Medicum*." Then followed John Quincy, whose dispensaries were standard works for the greater part of the eighteenth century. Quincy included in his book notes on pharmacy and medicine, which show him to have had an enviable grasp of both the art and science. The "*British Dispensary*," published in 1747, was a translation of the London *Pharmacopœia*, with notes on the preparations, together with the formulæ of the Edinburgh *Pharmacopœia*—the anonymous authors of this dispensary being the first to bring together the two *Pharmacopœias* in one volume. Healde, Latham, Powell, Thornton, Tuthill, Phillips, Maugham, and others also published annotated translations of the *Pharmacopœia*, but Stocker, in 1810, first combined the London, Edinburgh, and Dublin *Pharmacopœias* into one dispensary. He called his book "*Pharmacopœia Officialis Britannica*," thus anticipating by fifty years the preparation of one *Pharmacopœia* for the British Isles. Thomson's "*Dispensary*," published in Edinburgh five years afterwards, reached the high-water mark of the dispensary idea. Castle's "*Lexicon Pharmaceuticum*" appeared in 1828, but never became so popular as Thomson's work. Christison's "*Dispensary*" must also be mentioned as illustrating the persistence of a name in this country for a class of work which was by his time getting to be more and more a book on therapeutics; and Pereira's famous book is the first of our great modern tomes on materia medica and therapeutics which came out without the popular word on the title-page. The late Dr. Nevins, of Liverpool, was the author of the last "*Dispensary*" published in this country, his work appearing at the same time (1851) as Squire's tabular arrangement of the *Pharmacopœias*. From Squire's work grew the well-known "*Companion to the*

Pharmacopœia." In this connection we should not omit to mention Gray's "*Supplement*," afterwards issued by Redwood, although the idea of this volume was more to combine official and officinal formulæ in one volume. This is, however, ancient history, our present purpose being to trace the development of the magnificent volume which has just reached us from the United States—the "*National Standard Dispensary*." This book is the lineal descendant of Stillé and Maisch's dispensary, which ran through five editions. The present edition, with slightly altered title and a new staff of editors, marks another step in the evolution of the dispensary. The editors are Dr. H. A. Hare, Dr. Chas. Caspari, and Dr. H. H. Rusby, and they have been assisted in special departments by Mr. J. F. Geisler, Dr. E. Kremers, and Dr. D. Base. Dr. Hare is professor of therapeutics and materia medica in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, and was entrusted with the section dealing with medical action and uses. Dr. Rusby, well known as the professor of botany and materia medica in the New York College of Pharmacy, treats of pharmacognosy; while Professor Caspari, a leading American authority on and professor of pharmacy, had charge of that section of the volume. Dr. Kremers is professor of chemistry in the University of Wisconsin, and wrote the sections dealing with his special subject—essential oils. Dr. Base handled the inorganic chemistry, and Mr. J. F. Geisler (chemist of the New York State Department of Agriculture) contributed much important commercial information. These experts have produced a book of 1,860 pages, containing a digest of pharmaceutical knowledge such as would be better conveyed to English readers by the title "*Encyclopædia*." The publishers of the "*National Standard Dispensary*" in this country are Messrs. J. & A. Churchill, the price being 31s. 6d. It is somewhat difficult to convey an adequate idea of the contents of this lordly volume. The formulæ of most modern *Pharmacopœias* are compared, the United States, British, and German *Pharmacopœias* being particularly dealt with. Each subject is treated in sections headed "Origin," "Preparation," "Properties," "Impurities," "Tests," and "Action and Uses." The section dealing with properties contains a digest of what has been done on the particular subject, with the authors' names and dates of the research—the latest date, as far as we can find, being 1902. The Appendix contains lists of reagents and tests, volumetric solutions, alkaloidal and other estimations, saturation-tables of official acids, molecular weights, alcohol-tables, weights and measures equivalents, thermometric equivalents, and a short but well-written account of physiological testing by Dr. E. M. Houghton, of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co.'s staff. After the very complete index to the volume there is a therapeutic index.

Millions from Medicine.

THE enormous fortune amassed by the late Mr. George T. Fulford, who placed Dr. Williams's Pink Pills on the Canadian market in 1890 or so, and died last month worth in round figures a million sterling, forces the attention to the possibilities of the proprietary-medicine business. For the benefit of those who may be inclined to think that Mr. Fulford's fortune exists on paper in the shape of the property in his famous pills, we may say that we have before us a list of the principal stocks, bonds, and debentures bequeathed by him, and from the Canadian point of view they are gilt-edged securities. They include such items as City of Ottawa debentures, \$250,000; Dominion of Canada Government stock, \$95,386; Province of Ontario Government stock, \$141,172; Rio de Janeiro T. L. and P. Co., \$258,125;

Province of Quebec stock, \$171,306; City of Halifax stock, \$100,000; City of Cleveland stock, \$250,000; Chicago and Milwaukee Electric Railway, \$150,000; Mackay Securities Co., \$293,400; Bell Telephone Co., \$170,350; Pennsylvania Railway, \$100,880; General Electric Co. of U.S., \$450,000; and Imperial Life Insurance gold bonds, \$100,000. These are merely items in a total of \$4,130,000 of securities, part of Mr. Fulford's fortune, not including the pills. The man himself was twenty years ago behind the retail drug-counter—an ordinary druggist with no more likelihood of becoming a millionaire than is any retail chemist in the British Empire to-day. What was there in him, or his pill, or his methods, that made for success? This is a most difficult question to answer. Perhaps there is more in the pill than analysts have given it credit for; at any rate, it conforms with Mr. John Morgan Richards's oft-repeated aphorism—

No proprietary article has any lasting value, nor enriches the inventor, unless possessing undoubted merit, and which, in a marked degree, accomplishes the purpose stated.

This expresses the obvious, but granted that Mr. Fulford's pill is all that he believed it to be and said it is, there have been thousands of proprietary medicines as appropriate for the health of mankind in which fortunes have been sunk without a shadow of return. Mr. George P. Rowell, a veteran American advertising agent, in a series of reminiscient papers published in "Printers' Ink," mentions the case of the American speciality called "Ripans," which is the culminating-point of Mr. Rowell's endeavour to become the rich owner of a proprietary medicine. We gather from his narrative that Ripans originated from the idea of a young medical man to put rhubarb-and-soda mixture on the market as a speciality. The young man was turned on to think out a speciality, and that was the result. All doctors prescribe rhubarb-and-soda mixture, he said, it is used in every hospital, and it does good to most people who take it. After a great deal of stumbling in the dark, Mr. Rowell and his associates decided to put the ingredients on the market as a tabule. It was called "Ripans" because R-I-P-A-N-S are the initial letters of the ingredients. The tabules sell at 10c. and 5c. a packet, and have been cleverly and extensively advertised. As to this and the result we cannot do better than quote Mr. Rowell's own words:

We advertised largely and got very little results. We had more than \$125,000 due to us in balances that had been created against the newspapers of the country for advertising in the "American Newspaper Directory." It was determined to use this balance for the first year's advertising of the tabules, and that was done; and, at the end of the year, the net amount of money received from the sales was found to have been precisely \$976.48. It was not enough to pay the postage on the correspondence involved in managing the advertising and the cost of the electro-types used. Next year (1893) we advertised still more, and that year the sales amounted to \$2,126.83. It was not until the fifth year that the sales amounted to as much as \$2,000 in any single month. The largest sales ever made went something over \$15,000 in a single day; but that was under exceptional conditions in the year 1898. The largest normal sale ever made in a month was \$40,820.78 in March 1899; but that was after numerous changes and experiments with the size of the package and the price at which it was sold. . . . The goods are not advertised at all at the present time, and therefore the business appears to produce a handsome profit, releasing a thousand dollars every few days. Under such conditions the business seems like a little gold-mine. Nearly 10,000 people go every day to some drug-store, somewhere, and put down a nickel to procure one of the little 5-cent cartons of Ripans Tabules. Still the total sales at the retail price have not yet reached a total of \$3,000,000, and the manufacturer gets but little more than half the money paid by the buyer at retail, and the gross cost of the advertising already done does not fall very much below the full \$3,000,000 specified as the gross proceeds at retail. All of which goes to show that making money in the patent-medicine trade is by no means as easy as "rolling off a log."

Strange to say, there is nothing peculiar about the history of Ripans. We daresay if one got to the inner history of Mr. Fulford's pills we should find that up to a point it was with him "pay, pay, pay" all the time. Thomas Holloway spent 500% in advertising the first day, and sold a 2s. 9d. box of pills and a 1s. 1½d. pot of ointment. In more recent times a little syndicate spent all it had (25,000%) on a new medicine, and the prospect was failure; but a few thousands more, which came timely, took them round the corner, and the thing is now yielding thousands a year. When the late Mr. Fulford came to London in 1893 to introduce his pills by spending money on them at the rate of 30,000% a year he expounded to us his theory as to how to make a patent medicine sell. "Three things are essential," he said—"first, you must have a good thing; secondly, you must advertise it cleverly; thirdly, you must have lots of money to back it up with." And pluck to spend it was, he agreed, as necessary. Here, again, we have an expression of the obvious, and after all a successful pill-business does not differ in general principle from any other business, except that the initial outlay in those days may be enormously out of proportion to the return, and unless the outlay is persistently kept up the adventurer is bound to lose. In short, one fortune must be spent to secure another. There are successful proprietaries which have not grown to popularity in this way—some, indeed, grow in spite of the apparent negligence of their proprietors—but when we get behind these we find in most cases that they are alone in the market, and the time comes when hosts of similar things compete with them. Then it is that the proprietors of the originals have to come into line with modern methods and spend money lavishly in advertising and pushing the sale of their goods. If there is any secret of success in this business, it lies in the patience of the men engaged in it. When one has discovered "a good thing," belief in its possibilities is the first step towards fortune. If he be a retail chemist, with an assured living income, he takes the next step when he makes up his mind to wait for ten years at least before he uses a penny of the profits from "the good thing" for anything else than pushing it. While flying as high as he can in publicity, he will continue to live modestly, putting all the new thought he can into his speciality, finding new markets for it without letting the reins lax on the established outlets. There must never be the slightest halting, for there is abundance of proof from all quarters that a year's hiatus in advertising produces reduction in sales that takes twice the money to get back again. It is a strenuous fight all the time, and to most of those who read this it presents no allurements. The late Mr. Fulford was known to his intimates as "Nap." He resembled the great Napoleon in face, he was Napoleonic in endeavour, and he placed his money without fear on what he considered to be a winning hand.

The Rejected of Stoke.

(A Sonnet.)

He rose, upthrust by Mammon's golden bribe,
A craftsman who had wandered from the fold,
An intellect in thrall, a brother sold
To swell the insolence of Jesse's tribe.
He rose, the gallant Mavor, stark and bold,
And said, "Aweary I of life so cold,
And picture-frames and mirrors gall the kibe.
I fain would enter." Eager Cornwell laughs
And pities Ishmael in his penitence;
But Weston Poole declared against it quite,
"Tis shame for us," quoth he, and men of Staffs
Agreed, and forthwith they sent Mavor hence;
Yet who'll assert they were not in the right?

Canadian Wholesalers Combine.

The movement to combine the wholesale drug-houses of Canada has now assumed a definite shape, as we learn from the Montreal correspondent of the "New York Commercial" that on November 10 a company styled the National Drug Co., taking in "practically all the wholesale druggists of Canada," was registered on that date, with a capital of \$6,000,000. The headquarters of the combination are to be in Montreal, and financial operations will be much in the hands of "a Canadian bank and its branches." A few details as to what lines the combine is to work upon would be exceedingly interesting, but these do not appear to be available yet. There are, no doubt, many details to settle, not the least of which will be the amount of purchase-money to be paid by the combination for each individual business.

Bournemouth and Torquay.

We have received a copy of the "Torquay Formulary," issued by the Torquay Chemists' Association to local medical practitioners, and are surprised to find that it is merely a reprint of the formulæ worked out by the members of the Bournemouth Chemists' Association, and published as the "Bournemouth Formulary" some time ago. The Torquay booklet bears the imprint of the journal of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, which, we learn, reprinted the work without the authority of the Bournemouth Association, or even asking permission. Similarly, the Torquay Chemists' Association have not communicated with their *confrères* in Bournemouth, or given the slightest acknowledgment to them in the booklet or in any other manner. Probably they have erred in ignorance, but neither of the parties concerned in this moral wrong to the Bournemouth Association have anything to be proud of in the transaction; and it is particularly to be regretted that such an unusual departure from the etiquette in these matters (we need not use a stronger term) has been made under the *agis* of so venerable a body as the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Caution Still Needed.

We hear from various sources that the cautions we gave to the trade in regard to the man who is passing under the name "T. C. Smith" have had effect. "T. C. Smith" was up to a few days ago using the address "6 Andrew Marvel Terrace, Campbell Street, Hull," and applying for managerships. An interesting correspondence with this man has been sent us by a subscriber at Haswell, who, however, was warned in time by seeing the cautions in the *C. & D.* The application from "T. C. Smith" is just such a letter as a chemist wanting an assistant would consider. The letter is apparently frank and to the point, the expressions common to "T. C. Smith's" letters being used—*e.g.* :

"I am thirty-nine years of age, qualified, and desire a permanency."

"Can make a speciality of tooth-extraction."

"I have a fair (not expert) knowledge of photography."

"Can dress a good up-to-date window."

In regard to references one was given by "John Flockton, 20 Albion Street, Hull," but there are points in the hand-writing which, although it is disguised, make us believe that the letter is one of "T. C. Smith's" own productions. We may add that the Albion Street address is that of a physician and surgeon, who, of course, is quite ignorant of the use to which his address is being put. The note-paper used has the address printed on the top in blue ink. When our subscriber, recollecting the warnings given in the *C. & D.*, compared the hand-writing of "T. C. Smith's" application with the letter given in our issue of October 14, he informed the police, but whether "T. C. Smith" has yet been arrested we have not been informed. A warrant is out for the arrest of this man, and any chemist who is able to assist the police in executing the warrant will be doing a service to the trade in general.

The Analysis of Cream of Tartar.

By ERNEST J. PARRY, B.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S.

DURING the past few years much public attention has been called to cream of tartar on account of the numerous prosecutions by public authorities against vendors of this article on the grounds of its containing more or less lead. Much inconvenience has also been caused in many cases where no legal proceedings have been taken, through parcels being rejected on the same grounds. I have had the opportunity of following up many of these parcels, and I have convinced myself that in numerous cases, both where prosecutions have taken place and also in cases where no legal proceedings have resulted, there has been considerable exaggeration of the amount of lead present, owing to a failure to separate the other metallic elements which are often present in traces, with the result that the whole of the metallic contamination, including the innocent iron, has been returned as lead.

The injustice and inconvenience thereby caused make it clear that it is desirable that a uniform method of analysis should be adopted by all analysts who have the responsibility of reporting upon this article. In the present note I deal with the analysis of cream of tartar not only in connection with the metallic impurities, but generally. In the first place it will be well to look at the requirements of the British Pharmacopœia for cream of tartar. On p. 266 we read as follows :

A white gritty powder or fragments of cakes crystallised on one surface, with an acid taste. Soluble in 200 parts of cold water, insoluble in alcohol. It affords the reactions characteristic of potassium and of tartrates. Each grammo of the dry salt should require for neutralisation at least 5.2 c.c. of the volumetric solution of sodium hydroxide. It should yield no characteristic reactions with the tests for lead, copper, and iron, and only the slightest reaction with the tests for calcium, magnesium, sodium, chlorides, or sulphates. The total amount of impurities should not exceed 2.5 per cent. of the dried salt.

This description raises a most important point. It is often stated that the Pharmacopœia does not allow any lead to be present in cream of tartar, but I think a careful examination of this extract will show that this is hardly the case. On p. xiii. of the Preface to the Pharmacopœia we read :

The qualitative tests by which the basylous and acidulous radicals of ordinary salts are recognised, and by which common impurities are detected, instead of being many times repeated in the text, as in previous editions of the Pharmacopœia, are given once for all in an appendix, the text simply stating the names of the radicals or other matters which should be present or absent respectively. Special tests, or tests rarely employed, are still given in the text.

Now if we turn to "citric acid" in the Pharmacopœia we find the following :

10 grams dissolved in 20 c.c. of water neutralised with ammonia solution, and sufficient of a saturated solution of hydrogen sulphide added to produce 100 c.c. of liquid, no darkening of colour should result after five minutes (absence of lead).

Under tartaric acid we find the reader referred to the test for lead given under citric acid, which applies to tartaric acid as well; but under cream of tartar we do not find this most delicate test described or referred to, but merely the requirements as stated above. If we turn to p. 424 we find five tests for lead given, all far less delicate than that given for citric and tartaric acids; for example, hydrogen sulphide is described as yielding a precipitate instead of merely a dark colour. I think the inference is absolutely irresistible that the compilers of the British Pharmacopœia definitely allow traces of lead, so long as they are not sufficient to answer to the less delicate tests of the Appendix, in cream of tartar, whereas they rigidly exclude any traces from citric and tartaric acids.

Passing on to the method by which the best results may

be obtained, I find that the French authority, Carles, states that:

Lead exists in cream of tartar, not as tartrate but as sulphate dissolved by the bitartrate. To detect and estimate it in cream of tartar 10 grams of the sample should be used. It should be finely powdered, carbonised in a porcelain capsule, extracted with hot water, and filtered through a small folded paper. The insoluble sulphate and carbonate of lead remain with the carbon on the filter, which is washed to get rid of potassium carbonate. It is then treated with dilute nitric acid and filtered.

According to Carles, copper (now as nitrate) is always present, but I do not agree with him. If present, as it is frequently, it will be dissolved by the ammonia and is filtered off from the residue precipitated, which contains the lead (and also iron). Carles recommends weighing the lead as sulphide. The two objections to this process are as follows: In the first place one always loses a portion of the lead by incineration. If circumstances make it absolutely necessary to burn, then it should be done at as low a temperature as possible, and the carbonised tartar well powdered and well extracted. Secondly, one cannot possibly weigh correctly the small amount of lead usually found in contaminated cream of tartar.

There is no doubt that the only satisfactory process is a colorimetric one, and that only is practicable which depends upon the darkening in colour by formation of the metallic sulphides. Here the source of error, which has often been so disastrous, is the failure to discriminate between the various metals. In ordinary practice the metals one usually meets with are lead, copper, and iron. In the presence of lead and copper only the difficulty is easily overcome, but the presence of iron causes some complication. I have often met with creams free from more than the slightest traces of lead and copper, but which contained large amounts of iron—up to several grains per lb.

Unless very tedious methods, quite inapplicable to ordinary work, are used, there is no doubt that a colorimetric process is by far the best. The most reliable is one depending on the colour developed in alkaline solution by means of hydrogen sulphide—or preferably a solution of sodium sulphide.

The process is due to Warington, and is best applied in the following manner:

Ten grams (or less if an abnormally large quantity of lead is found to be present) is dissolved in distilled water with the aid of 25 c.c. of a 10-per-cent. solution of ammonia, and the whole made up to 50 c.c. with water. The small amount of insoluble matter may be filtered off, and if the solution has a yellowish tint, this must be allowed for by matching the blank with it before beginning to estimate the lead. A blank experiment is carried out side by side with this, using the same amounts of water and ammonia, and a known quantity of a dilute standard solution of lead acetate or tartrate is added to the liquid (a solution containing 0.1 milligram of lead per c.c. is best) until the addition of a few drops of a 5-per-cent. solution of sodium sulphide produces the same depth of colour in both tubes. This will allow the lead to be easily calculated.

If copper be present 1 c.c. of a 10-per-cent. solution of potassium cyanide must be added to each tube, the copper sulphide being dissolved by this means. If iron be present it is necessary to allow the solution to stand all night with potassium cyanide, after being well warmed on a water-bath, since the iron takes a considerable time to dissolve. If much iron is present I do not find that the colour due to it is altogether discharged after standing even for this time. It may occasionally be necessary to fall back on the calcination method, but if so the calcination should be at as low a temperature as possible, so as to avoid any loss in lead; then extract the carbonised residue with nitric acid, precipitate the lead in the concentrated solution by means of sulphuretted hydrogen, and weigh as lead sulphate. Unless very appreciable quantities are present the errors introduced are too large for the results to be reliable, and in general practice the purely volumetric process will be found to yield excellent results.

For the detection of arsenic I much prefer Gutzeit's method, using an apparatus similar to that proposed by Bird, slightly modified by Umney. In many cases, traces of arsenic returned may be put down to the fact that the reagents used in testing contain arsenic.

Passing on to the actual estimation of the amount of true acid tartrate of potassium present, I observe that the British Pharmacopœia, 1898, uses a direct titration process, requiring a solution of the cream to be exactly neutralised by a certain amount of a solution of sodium hydroxide. The old edition used a similar process, but first calcined the cream and titrated the resulting potassium carbonate. This is certainly not so good a process as that now used.

The Pharmacopœia process leaves nothing to be desired for purified cream of tartar, but, of course, the results are not exact in the case of crude products, in which errors of from 3 to 6 per cent. may be obtained on account of the presence of pectic and tannic acids, and sometimes acetic acid. Another process which does not appear to possess any advantage over the more simple titration method, especially if the solution be filtered in that process, is the following:

Two grams is dissolved in successive quantities of water until the last extraction is quite neutral to litmus, and the filtrates evaporated to about 20 c.c., and 200 c.c. of alcohol is added. After two hours the whole of the tartrate of potassium is precipitated and is separated, and may be titrated.

This process gives practically identical results with that above mentioned, except in the case of crude tartars, when it is more useful. Klein in a similar manner recommends precipitating the potassium as neutral tartrate, but the exact details of his process are not very clear and do not appear to have any particular advantages, especially in the case of the purified article.

Occasionally one finds appreciable amounts of sulphate of lime in cream of tartar. The principal objection to this is said to be that it forms an insoluble and indigestible compound with the gluten when used for baking-purposes. The best method of detecting and estimating this is to dissolve 10 grams of the sample in 150 to 200 c.c. of water acidulated with hydrochloric acid. The solution is heated to boiling-point and a small amount of solution of barium chloride is added. The lime remains in solution, and the sulphate of barium is precipitated and can be filtered off and weighed. As practically all the sulphuric acid is combined with the lime there is no appreciable error if the sulphuric acid is calculated into lime direct. Oxalates are said to occasionally occur in this article, but I have never met with such a sample, and I think its presence may be considered as almost apocryphal. If considered necessary to examine for this impurity, a solution of acetate of lime will be required, as whatever is present is certain to be in the form of potassium oxalate. For applying the test the sample should be extracted with 70-per-cent. alcohol, and a saturated solution of acetate of calcium added. There should be no precipitate of calcium oxalate.

Information Wanted.

Inquiries for the names and addresses of manufacturers, or other trade information, not traceable by reference to the advertisement-pages of "The Chemist and Druggist" and the "C. & D. Diary," or not filed in our private register, are inserted here free of charge. Postcard or other replies to any of the subjoined inquiries (addressed to the Editor "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.), will be esteemed.

- 29/60. Who is the maker of "Sea foam" soap?
- 138/34. Who are the agents for Dr. Eachoss's soap?
- 129/19. Address of makers of Weston's Wizard oil.
- 132/30. Who are makers of Rogers' nursery hair-lotion?
- 136/35. Address of makers of "Radiant" washing-compound.
- 133/58. Where can "Hyper-samphine," for preserving eggs, be obtained?
- 134/19. Can any reader give information about a medicine used for Guinea worm?
- 133/29. What is the composition of Hutchinson's pill? It contains grey powder and possibly opium.
- 136/28. Name and address of makers of porcelain balls used in cylinders for drug-grinding purposes.
- 136/68. Food-warmer—i.e., a vessel lined with asbestos to contain hot water in which a feeding-bottle filled with food can be kept warm all night. Who is the maker or where obtainable?

Winter Session of Chemists' Local Associations.

The Business Done.

Nine meetings are reported, and the Sheffield Society's dinner is dealt with in our Coloured Supplement, where also the annual meeting of the Drug Stores Association is reported. Mr. J. F. Brown has been elected President of the Dover Association, Mr. B. H. Butler is to continue in the same office at Reading, and Mr. J. H. Williams at Bournemouth. Dublin assistants have discussed the apothecaries' assistants' question; North Staffs has declined to take a Boots manager into the fold, and discussed the Widows Clause, favouring its retention; and Mr. Edmund White was the speaker at the Midland Association's conversazione, pharmacy for the pharmacist being his topic. Many interesting minor subjects have been discussed.

Leeds Chemists' Association.

THE members met in the Hall of the Leeds University on Thursday evening, November 16, to hear a lecture by Professor Arthur Smithells, F.R.S., on "Flame." The President (Mr. G. W. Worfolk) occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance, including a number of ladies. The subject of "Flame" is one upon which the lecturer is not only the leading exponent, but one of the cleverest experimenters, and he greatly delighted his audience by the pretty things he showed them, and his interesting facts about illumination, which included a description of the manufacture of incandescent mantles. He was heartily thanked for the lecture and demonstration.

Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING was held at Mr. Peck's house, Fitzwilliam Street, on Friday evening, November 17. The President (Mr. H. F. Cook) was unavoidably absent through indisposition, and Mr. E. S. Peck (Vice-President) presided. There was a good attendance. The Chairman opened a discussion on "Direct Parliamentary Representation," and Messrs. B. S. Campkin, Evans, Palmer, Hart, and Mallett took part. The following resolution was carried unanimously:

That the Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association support the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations in their endeavour to promote a scheme for the direct representation of pharmacy in Parliament.

Dover Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held at the house of the President on November 17. There were present Mr. H. Peake, J.P. (President), Mr. R. M. Ewell (Secretary), and Messrs. Barnes, J.P., Brown, Cartwright, E. Ewell, Forster, Kay, and Hambrook. The President was unanimously re-elected, but on account of his weak health he requested the members to elect Mr. J. F. Brown Vice-President, and this was done. Mr. R. M. Ewell was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer. The accounts were adopted and the levy made for the ensuing year. Letters were read from the Tunbridge Wells Association, inviting the members to the annual dinner, and it was arranged that Messrs. Barnes, Brown, and Ewell attend. The Cheltenham Chemists' Association had written regarding the sale of the Cheltenham water, and other communications were considered. The meeting discussed the various benevolent candidates, and finally dispersed with a vote of thanks to the President for his hospitality.

Reading Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting and supper were held at George's Restaurant on Thursday, November 16, at 8 p.m. The attendance was rather small. Mr. B. H. Butler (President) was in the chair.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT of the past session showed that the roll of members remained stationary, and he regretted that the attendance at the meetings had been so small. The work of the session had been on the whole very satisfactory. The cause of the P.A.T.A. was what they had been striving

for, and the result of their efforts and influence was shown in the number of well-known articles recently added to the list. Some amusement was caused by the reading of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Association Ballad relating to Reading's work in this direction, and reprints were distributed to the members. The report was adopted, with a vote of thanks, as was the Treasurer's balance-sheet, which showed a very satisfactory financial condition.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—Mr. B. H. Butler was re-elected President for the ensuing year, and the Secretary, Treasurer, and committee were also re-elected without change. The time being too far advanced to proceed with further business, the arrangement of a programme for the session was left to the committee.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

A MEETING was held at 73 Newman Street, W., on November 16, the President (Mr. A. G. C. Paterson) in the chair. Eighteen members and friends were present, and eight new members were elected.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Mr. Clark, the Recorder in Pharmacy, had obtained a sample of the castor-oil powder mentioned in the *C. & D.* of the previous week. He had also obtained and distributed to the members copies of Messrs. Jewsbury & Brown's B.P. "Posological Tables." Mr. Lownsbrough mentioned a new aperient called Colalin, of which the active principle is cholalic acid, and showed one of Hicks's new thermometers with half- and one-minute time-glasses.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING.—Mr. F. F. Riches read an instructive and interesting paper on this subject. He first outlined the principles of the generation and control of electric power at central stations, referring, *en passant*, to the increasing use of towns' refuse as fuel in generating-stations. Next he described the distribution of current to the consumer. Many of the power companies now supply alternating current at 200 volts in the place of continuous current at 100 volts, and Mr. Riches explained the reason and effect of this change. The high voltage and low ampère alternating current can be more economically transmitted over long distances than the continuous current at low voltage and higher ampère. Moreover, the mains in the first case may be of lower gauge, thus effecting a considerable saving of copper. Then were explained the principles of house wiring, with the placing of fuse-boards and switches. Following on this came a description of the lamps used, and Mr. Riches showed specimens of the newer types. The by-pass lamp has a second filament of two or three candle-power, which is switched on when the full light of the lamps is not required. The Tantalum lamp was also referred to, as well as the Nerst lamp and arc lamps.

Irish Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

THE usual weekly meeting of this Association was held on November 17 at the Nelson Café, 33 Lower Sackville Street, Dublin. Mr. Jameson presided.

DISPENSING CHARGES.—Anonymous communications were read on "Prescriptions: Their Production, Prices, and Profits," and on "The Apothecaries' Assistant—Past, Present, and Future." The author of the first-named paper took up the cudgels in favour of the cheaply prepared medical prescription and the equally reasonable cost of filling same. He thought that the charges for dispensing might be graduated according to the circumstances of the customers, in a similar way to the charges made by the medical profession. Such a concession to honest poverty would not come under the name of "cutting," as it would only apply to prescriptions, and not to patents or proprietaries, which would continue at ordinary prices. The policy was a live-and-let-live one, and if generally followed it would in the long run bring in more money, as the public who now resort to the Poor-law dispensaries for free drugs and medicines would cheerfully pay a few pence for a mixture at the nearest chemist's and so save their pride and their time. During the discussion which followed it was argued that a

medical prescription if written in English could be dispensed by a registered druggist, but that if in Latin it could only be compounded by a pharmaceutical chemist. The Chairman dissented, and held that only a pharmaceutical chemist could by law compound, sell, and keep open shop for the traffic in medical prescriptions.

APOTHECARIES' ASSISTANTS.—The Chairman led the debate on "the personality, past, present, and future, of the apothecaries' assistant." He pointed out that although the possession of the "Hall" certificate gave an atmosphere of experience, efficiency, and character to the assistant, it did not entitle him to keep open shop on his own account, nor did it under the law permit him to serve in a pharmacy, although there were many cases of assistants of the Hall who were connected with retail pharmacy. The assistant from Ireland has no *locus standi* outside Ireland, so for real practical use the certificate is at a discount. There is something very unsatisfactory in the personality of the present-day apothecaries' assistant. He seems to be neither medical man nor pharmacist, and the only advantage he has is that he can become an assistant after two years' apprenticeship, as against four years' for a pharmacist. The assistant of the future has a bleak outlook. Salaries are small, and opportunities of getting on are becoming fewer. The abolition of night medical lectures is the deathblow to aspiring apothecaries, and unless the Pharmaceutical Society comes to some understanding with the Hall in regard to the examinations held by the latter body, the assistant of the future might as well be qualified in drapery as in drugs for all the benefit accruing therefrom.

Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association was held at its rooms on Friday, November 17, at 8.30 p.m. Mr. S. Hardwick (retiring President) was in the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Williams, Haynes, Hornby, Owen, Reid, Curtis, Gordon, W. Jones, Hughes, Botham, R. Robinson, Pars, and Rose (Hon. Secretary). Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Bilson, Toon, and Bingham.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—Mr. Williams proposed a general rule to elect presidents in order of seniority, and that Mr. Bilson be elected President for the ensuing year. Mr. W. Jones seconded; but it was explained that Mr. Bilson had stated definitely that, owing to private business, he would be obliged to decline the honour. Mr. Hornby then proposed that Mr. J. H. Williams be elected. This was seconded by Mr. Hughes and carried unanimously. It was unanimously decided to re-elect Mr. F. Rose as Joint Secretary and Treasurer (for the fourth year in succession), and it was also agreed to re-elect the old committee—namely, Messrs. Pars, Reid, Bingham, and Hornby.

"BOURNEMOUTH FORMULARY."—The Secretary announced that the second edition of this work had become exhausted. After discussion Mr. Botham proposed that a new edition be published in January 1906. This was seconded by Mr. Curtis and agreed to. It was further proposed, and carried unanimously, that Messrs. Hardwick, Hornby, Bilson, and Reid be appointed a sub-committee to consider material for and publish a new edition. The members present were asked to send in to the Secretary any additions, or suggestions for improvement, to be considered by the committee for incorporation in the new work. After further discussion it was decided that samples of about four of the "Formulary" products should be prepared, and distributed with the next edition of the work. The members of the Association are to supply the Secretary with a list of those medical practitioners to whom they would like samples sent.

BUYING SECTION.—Considerable discussion took place on this matter, owing to the feeling that a revision of the schedule was necessary. Since the list was drawn up, two years ago, a number of the articles thereon have been added to the P.A.T.A. list, and many of the prices have been altered. It was generally recognised that great help had been given to the P.A.T.A. by the wholesale trade, and undoubtedly the P.A.T.A. has been of benefit and profit to chemists generally; it was therefore felt that in deference to the wholesalers it would be unwise for the members of the Association to buy any article that is on the P.A.T.A. list

through the Buying Section. After discussion Mr. Hughes proposed:

That a new schedule be prepared by the committee to include only such articles as are not protected through the P.A.T.A.

This was seconded by Mr. Botham and carried unanimously.

VOTE OF THANKS TO MR. HARDWICK.—Mr. Pars proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hardwick for the excellent manner in which he had filled the office of President during the past year. This was unanimously agreed to.

North Staffs Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at the Roebuck Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, on November 16. Mr. J. Averill, Stafford (President), occupied the chair, and among those present were Messrs. W. Marson (Mayor of Stafford) and Edmund Jones (Hanley). Vice-Presidents; Messrs. Weston Poole (Treasurer), T. Bentley (Hon. Secretary), T. C. Cornwell, T. Charles, C. P. A. Morrison, F. Wrench, F. Adams, J. B. Blades, G. Swinnerton, S. Challinor, F. C. Burrell, A. F. Bottomley, A. Fernley, J. D. Melling, W. Oldham, R. Prince, H. P. Jones, J. H. Bates (North Staffs Infirmary), and W. McBride.

MR. MAYOR NOT ELECTED.—The voting for the election of Mr. Mayor, manager of Boots, Ltd., Hanley branch, was first taken, and eight voted for him and thirteen against. He was therefore declared not elected. Messrs. G. S. Insull, H. A. Blades (son of Mr. J. B. Blades, of Leek), L. G. Crofts (Birmingham), L. Snow (Cheadle), and W. McBride were then proposed as members of the Association, and will be balloted for at the next meeting.

B.P.C.—It was decided, in view of the British Pharmaceutical Conference to be held there next year, to help the Birmingham Association in any way the North Staffs Association can.

PRESENTATION.—The President next presented, on behalf of the members, a silver photograph-frame to Mr. F. C. Barber, on the occasion of his recent marriage.

TOASTING THE MAYOR.—Mr. Edmund Jones then proposed "The health of Mr. W. Marson," who was on November 9 elected Mayor of Stafford, and congratulated him. Mr. Marson was cordially received on rising to reply. He sketched in an interesting manner the history of the Mayoralty of Stafford, and stated that he was the seventh member of his family in a hundred years to occupy the Mayoral chair.

THE WIDOWS CLAUSE.

Mr. J. B. Blades (Leek) next read a paper on the Widows Clause, in which he sketched the history of the provision, and stated that during recent years the views of the chemists of the country with regard to the Widows Clause have been greatly modified by reason of several legal actions. Mr. Blades thought that in view of the disastrous results of these actions, especially the one in the House of Lords in 1880, chemists could not justly complain of the inaction of the Pharmaceutical Council for further postponing dealing with the case of deceased chemists' businesses until such time as companies of unqualified persons can be dealt with together. He proposed the following resolution:

That the best method of dealing with the continuance of a deceased chemist's business, and also any shop belonging to a company of unqualified persons, is to efficaciously strengthen and safeguard the powers and status of the registered person invested with the *bona-fide* conduct of such business or shop, and who, as a rule, can be personally present thereat.

Mr. W. Marson seconded the resolution, and instanced cases in Stafford where the Widows Clause had worked admirably.

The President thought there was a good deal that might be said both for and against the clause. He also knew of cases where the widow and children had received great benefit.

Mr. Charles (Burslem) supported the resolution, and said it would be a great injustice for a widow to have to dispose of an old-established business for a mere song when it could be managed successfully for her by a qualified man. Many a time when a business is sold on the death of a chemist it does not fetch more than a third of its value.

Mr. T. C. Cornwell (Hanley) did not wish to be unsympathetic towards the widow, but felt that the time had

come when they must sink sentiment. They could not go to the Legislature with any sort of consistency with regard to company shops while they retained the Widows Clause.

Mr. Edmund Jones (Hanley) said the Widows Clause had been a stumbling-block. They must now face facts in a practical manner. They could not press for the abolition of company trading with qualified managers while they allowed a widow to carry on business with a qualified assistant or manager. A manager, too, was not always a blessing, and often he let the business down, and when he left the business was sold and did not fetch so much as it would have done on the death of the chemist.

Mr. Cornwell then proposed, as an amendment, that the Widows Clause should be abolished in view of future legislation.

Mr. Weston Poole, Treasurer (Newcastle-under-Lyme), seconded, and on being put to the vote the amendment was carried by a large majority.

Midland Pharmaceutical Association.

THE winter session of this Association was inaugurated on Tuesday evening, November 21, with a social gathering at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham. The proceedings opened with a reception by the President (Mr. A. W. Gerrard) and Mrs. Gerrard, and the company included Mr. E. White, B.Sc. (London), Colonel Wyley and Mr. H. W. Jones (Coventry), Messrs. W. Southall, A. W. Southall, G. E. Perry, F. H. Alcock, Charles Thompson, J. Poole, J. Wakefield, J. Harries, J. H. Shorthouse, F. H. Prosser, A. W. Shaw, A. W. Mann, H. Boucher, F. H. Gibson (Wolverhampton), J. Cuttel (Knowle), and J. A. Radford (Hon. Secretary). Mr. T. Barclay, Mr. J. Averill, J.P. (Stafford), Councillor Wilcox (Wolverhampton), and others sent apologies for absence. Mr. E. White delivered

THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

In this he stated that pharmacists in the practice of their profession have a genuine grievance arising from certain disabilities which were not contemplated when the Pharmacy Act was passed. He did not deprecate having this amended by fresh legislation, but pointed out that the ideal conditions for the practice of pharmacy. He then touched upon the claim that the qualifying are not realised because the practice and supply of medicine are associated together in the public mind. People expect to get medicine from the doctor who prescribes it, and for one fee. Until this condition is changed (and he advised pharmacists to educate the public up to it) so that the physician will prescribe alone, and the pharmacist dispense, the art of pharmacy will not advance. Mr. White proceeded to speak of other things that hamper the pharmacist, such as specialisation and proprietary medicines, and deprecated the demand for and acceptance of a guarantee from another party as a proceeding dangerous to the personal responsibility and skill of those who practise pharmacy. He then touched upon the claim that the qualifying examination should carry a measure of protection with it, saying it is improbable that chemists will get more than they have. Reference was made to the demand for a compulsory curriculum, and while admitting that examination alone is not sufficient, and that a University training would enhance the reputation of pharmacy, Mr. White did not advocate the legislation of a curriculum. He considered that even in chemists' shops where little or no dispensing is done there are

abundant opportunities for the practice of the pharmacist's art; certainly sufficient to enable any pupil to obtain that intimate knowledge of drugs which forms the foundation of all the higher flights in pharmacy. Only the opportunities must be utilised, and pharmacists should remember their duties to their pupils and to their profession. He who is content to hand over to his customers the goods to the production of which he has brought none of his own skill, must expect to do so only under the ordinary conditions of commercial competition. . . . The pharmacist who assures himself of the quality of his crude drugs and conscientiously makes his preparations therefrom may rely upon the quality of his product. If this method were uniformly adopted in the case of drugs like digitalis and squill, we should not hear so much about the necessity of biochemical standardisation.

Finally Mr. White referred to the meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in Birmingham next year, and

appealed to Midland chemists who are not members of the Conference to join it.

Colonel Wyley, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. White, expressed agreement with him in his observations as to the responsibility of the pharmacist. If a pharmacist be satisfied with being a vendor of articles only, there is no doubt the public will not feel there is so much responsibility as they do in a well-ordered pharmacy.

Mr. A. W. Southall seconded, and affirmed that the first steps to be taken were to educate the young pharmacist. Every year spent in education, whether in the shop or afterwards in the school, is of the utmost value. (Hear, hear.) He prophesied a cordial reception to the Conference at Birmingham next year.

The President, in putting the resolution, said he had all his life been an optimist in pharmacy. But sometimes in walking down the street he had his doubts when he found so many poachers on the ground. By and by they would have to send for their greengrocery to the chemist's shop, and it is a very big drop from otto of roses to onions. (Laughter.) The medical profession seemed to have lost the art of writing the old-fashioned prescriptions and sending them to the chemists to dispense. They get their materia medica from the advertisements.

A pleasant musical programme was subsequently gone through.

The Week's Poisonings.

TWO of the eleven fatalities from poisoning that have occurred during the week were misadventures. Mrs. Connor, wife of a Shoreditch shopkeeper, swallowed a fatal quantity of an ammonia liniment in mistake for a rheumatism-mixture. A coroner's jury gave a verdict of accidental death in the case of Rosa George (39), of the Rectory Farm, Gravenhurst, who drank carbolic acid while in a state of intoxication. Two suicides by carbolic acid are recorded: James Francis Paley (36), a Holbeck labourer out of work, drank a fatal dose to end his troubles, and Jane Tomlinson, of Warrington, poisoned herself with the same acid. Lewis William Whittles (41), an East India merchant's manager at Manchester, poisoned himself with opium. Dr. F. H. Gibson, assistant house-surgeon at Greenock Infirmary, was found dead in bed, and an examination showed that he had taken prussic acid. He belonged to High Wycombe. At an inquest at Chelsea on a young barman named Earl, who committed suicide with sulphate of mercury, the friends contended that deceased had taken it in mistake for a sedlitz-powder, the poison having been purchased for an unknown friend for electrical-purposes. Mr. Alfred William Barker, chemist and druggist, 112 Wandsworth Bridge Road, S.W., deposed that he remembered the sale of the poison to deceased, and he carried out all the requirements of Schedule 2 of the Poisons Act. George Frederick Maynard, a cabman, who was declared by a doctor to be the greatest physical wreck he had ever seen, has committed suicide at Walthamstow by taking oxalic acid. At Kensington an adjourned inquest was held on Ethel Steine (19). It was stated that an analysis of the stomach showed oxalic-acid poisoning to be the cause of death. During the adjournment a cup containing crystals and a poison packet was found in the deceased's room. The packet was labelled "Bruce's, Ltd., High Class Drug-stores. E. F. Strickland, M.P.S., chemist. Salts of Lemon—Poison. Ealing and Chiswick, also Earl's Court Road and North End Road." Mr. Strickland said that although the packet was evidently bought at one of his shops he could not prove the sale. It was an article frequently applied for and he had carried out all the necessary requirements of the Act. Ann Twigley (43) committed suicide at Bolton by taking 2d. worth of salt of lemon, which she had purchased from a drug-store for the purpose of cleaning a straw hat. Jane Anderson (58), a Leyton shopkeeper, found the struggle for existence so hard that she ended it with spirit of salt.

MESSRS. S. W. WILKINSON & Co., engineers, Leicester, have recently placed on the market a new ointment mixing and grinding mill, and an emulsifying-machine. For this class of machinery we have frequent inquiries, and we would refer those interested to the firm for full particulars in regard to these new pieces of apparatus.

Legal Reports.

High Court Cases.

CALVERT'S CARBOLIC TOOTH-POWDER.

IN the Chancery Division on Saturday, November 18, Mr. Justice Buckley, in the case of F. C. Calvert & Co. v. Mary J. Wright (trading as Madame Jalland Wright), had before him a motion for judgment on behalf of the plaintiffs.

Mr. Harold McKenna stated the facts of plaintiffs' case (*C. & D.*, 1905, II., 164), which were that the defendant, who carries on business at Nottingham, had passed off tooth-powder of her or some other person's manufacture in response to orders for Calvert or Calvert's carbolie tooth-powder, in consequence of which plaintiffs had suffered loss and damage, and claimed an injunction, which his Lordship granted. An inquiry as to damages was also directed, with costs.

SUMMER OR WINTER SYRUPS.

IN the King's Bench Division on Wednesday, November 22, before Mr. Justice Jelf and a common jury, the action of W. J. Bush & Co., Ltd., manufacturing chemists, Hackney v. Musoli Bros. was heard. Mr. Tindal Davis appeared for plaintiffs, and Mr. Cairns for the defendants.

Mr. Davis said the action was brought to recover 84*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*, balance due on goods sold and delivered to the defendants, who are retail confectioners in Stratford and the East-end. In August last defendants purchased from plaintiffs various goods, consisting of 500 gals. of syrups used for drinking-purposes, the whole to be delivered at once. That was done, the syrups going to various shops belonging to the defendants. He believed there was a defence that the syrups were not suitable for winter drinks, but in point of fact it did not matter whether the syrups were used in winter or summer, as soda-water could be added in summer and hot water in winter. It appeared that the defendants, having got hold of these goods and about 900*l.* worth of goods from other manufacturing chemists, called a meeting of creditors, which was held on September 22. Plaintiffs succeeded in obtaining a return of goods to the value of 32*l.* 15*s.*, for which they had given defendants credit, their original account being 117*l.* They questioned the defendants as to what they had done with the remainder of the syrups, and they said they had sent it to various shops. At the meeting of creditors the defendants offered a composition of 2*s.* in the pound, but as they had disposed of 900*l.* worth of goods in six weeks the creditors refused to accept it, and a petition in bankruptcy was filed in September. Mr. Registrar Linklater, however, adjourned it in order to enable the present case to be heard.

Andrew Stockdale, plaintiffs' traveller, gave evidence as to taking and executing the orders; and Mr. Bowles, analytical chemist, said the quality of the syrups was the same in winter as in summer. His firm manufactured and sent syrups all over the world. G. Stevens, clerk with plaintiffs, said he was present at the meeting of the creditors of the defendants Arthur and Nicodemo Musoli. Their statement of affairs showed a deficiency of 1,150*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* The defendants offered a composition of 2*s.* in the pound, 1*s.* in three months and 1*s.* in six months, which the creditors refused to accept. Defendants subsequently returned 150 gals. of the syrup, for which they had been credited. There had never been any suggestion that the syrups were not suitable for winter drinks.

Mr. Cairns said the hardship on the defendants was that they were loaded up with goods which would be of no use until next summer. The points he had to put to the jury were whether the goods were the goods his clients ordered. They would tell them that they were not, and that their customers had returned the syrups, which they had on their hands.

Arthur Musoli said he told the plaintiffs' traveller that he wanted the syrups for winter drinks. He told him at least three times to be careful and not make a mistake. Witness ordered 500 gals., and some 40 gals. was sent on. Then witness made complaint as to the colour of the raspberry syrup and the flavour of others. He also said they were not suitable for winter drinks. The traveller said, "Oh, keep them on, and I will come down some day and put them right for you"—meaning, witness understood, that he would put in some new ingredient. The arrangement was to deliver

only 20*l.* worth a month, and for defendants to pay 10*l.* a month. Instead of that he found on reaching home one night that the whole 500 gals. had arrived. As he understood that plaintiffs would not press for the money, he accepted the goods, and he and his brother sold a portion. Afterwards he made complaint that the syrup was not good, and was only suitable for soda-fountains. Plaintiffs' traveller told him he could send it back, and he sent back 150 gals. They had since had part of the syrup returned from their customers.

Mr. Cairns, after the luncheon interval, said his clients would consent to judgment for plaintiffs in view of the long time the goods had been kept.

Mr. Davis: Then plaintiffs will take judgment for the amount claimed, and the petition will go on before the Registrar, plaintiffs to come in with the other creditors.

The jury, by his Lordship's direction, returned a verdict to that effect, and judgment was entered accordingly, with costs.

Pharmacy and Poisons Acts (Ireland).

SALE OF CORROSIVE SUBLIMATE.

AT New Ross (co. Wexford) Petty Sessions on Friday, November 17, before Mr. J. E. Galavan (presiding) and Messrs. J. S. Hearn, P. Bolger, A. J. Doyle, T. D. Place, and R. C. Brehon, Timothy Butler, a Rower publican, was charged with selling corrosive sublimate, contained in a bottle or jar of Bell's mange-wash, for cattle, sheep, etc., contrary to Section 30 of the 1875 Act. There was a second summons issued against the defendant for keeping open shop for the sale of the same. The prosecutor in each case was Sergeant John Madden. Mr. Meeke, solicitor (of Messrs. A. & J. Robinson & Co., solicitors, Dublin), appeared on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland in support of the prosecution; and Mr. E. E. Gethin, solicitor (of Messrs. Colfer & Gethin, solicitors, New Ross), appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Meeke briefly explained the law and recited the facts of the case, stating that the bottle of Bell's mange-wash contained enough corrosive sublimate to poison twelve persons.

Mr. Gethin said that Mr. Butler admitted keeping this stuff for sale, and that he sold a bottle of it. A fortnight before it was sold the sergeant intimated to Mr. Butler that selling this stuff was illegal, and thereupon Mr. Butler went immediately to Waterford to Mr. Bell, who was supplying it, and arranged to send it back. Through pressure of business this was not done, and in his absence his brother sold a bottle of it to the sergeant. He deprecated bringing two summonses for really one offence, and asked the Bench to consider this as one case.

Mr. Meeke: I will prove my case for both offences and I will ask you for a conviction in both, and I will submit that your Worship has no alternative but to convict in both. We have pursued the course of taking two summonses for years, and on the strength of previous decisions and the wording of the section we are entitled to get the two penalties. I now call Sergeant Madden.

Mr. Gethin: We admit the offence.

Mr. Meeke: Do you admit the two offences?

Mr. Gethin: I admit the stuff was sold, and there is really but one offence. I admit the first offence, and submit you cannot convict in both.

Mr. Meeke: Do you admit Mr. Butler had no right to sell the poison?

Mr. Gethin: I do; and I admit that Mr. Butler sold the poison.

Upon this there was a long conversation between Bench and Bar as to the propriety of the two summonses, in the course of which Mr. Meeke mentioned that he had a precisely similar case at Ferns a few weeks ago and obtained two convictions. Mr. Place elicited that a memorial for a reduction of fines had been submitted in that case, and Mr. Meeke added that if there is to be a memorial in the present one it should be to the Lord-Lieutenant through the Pharmaceutical Society; but the tendency of the Castle is not to reduce these fines. In reply to Mr. Hearn, the defendant said he was not aware the article is a poison, for it had been sold in the shop twelve years before he got the publican's licence. Mr. Gethin then argued that there could

be only one offence for one act, and quoted Section 30 of the 1875 Act in support of this contention, whereupon Mr. Meeke replied that the meaning of the words is clearly alternative: "It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to sell"—that is the first offence—"or keep open shop for retailing," etc.—that is the second distinct offence.

Mr. Hearn: Would you be satisfied to have a conviction for the first offence?

Mr. Meeke: No, Sir; I would not.

Mr. Gethin: I submit your Worships can convict only on one summons.

Mr. Meeke: Very well; if you think that I will prove my case. And now before I examine Sergeant Madden I put in for the information of the Court the Register of Pharmaceutical Chemists, the Register of Chemists and Druggists, and the Register of Registered Druggists. If the Bench do not convict on both summonses, I must ask to have a case stated, and I will bring it to the King's Bench. I submit that under the 27th section of the Pharmacy Act the defendant is not a person qualified to sell poison.

Mr. Bolger: What are the qualifications to sell poison?

Mr. Meeke: He should be apprenticed to a qualified chemist and pass a pharmaceutical examination—he must either be a pharmaceutical chemist or a chemist and druggist or a registered druggist. The last two are very much the same, and depend on whether a man was practising before the amending Act of 1890 or not.

Mr. Gethin: Oh, he is not a druggist.

Sergeant Madden then proved the purchase.

Davis S. Jardin, F.I.C., F.C.S., A.R.C.Sc., deposed to receiving the bottle from Sergeant Madden by registered post. The total of the fluid in it was 5½ oz., and it contained 12.2 grains of corrosive sublimate, equal to over 36 grains to the bottle, or enough to kill twelve people.

Mr. Gethin intimated that he had no question to ask, as it was a pure question of law as old as King Charles. Producing the law-book on which he relied, Mr. Gethin said: Your Worships, in all these cases in which penalties are sought to be recovered, where there is any doubt whatever on the construction of the statute the person charged must get the benefit of that doubt, because penal statutes are not to be extended or carried out rigidly, and if any doubt arises on them they must be construed in favour of the person charged. That is a principle of law that you are all conversant with, I am sure. The policy of this Act is not vindictive, but prohibitive, and I submit it would be sufficient to inflict the one penalty in order to meet the ends of justice in this case. Having regard to the slipshod way in which people have been dealing in these drugs for years past, the penalty seems altogether out of proportion to the offence—

Mr. Meeke: Deal with the law.

Mr. Gethin: I am dealing with law. Your Worships, it is a well-known principle of the law that you cannot accumulate penalties for the same offence, or impose a series of penalties for the same kind of offence committed on the same day. The principle, Sir, is an old one, and I have here the report of a case dealing with the point. The report of the case is this—

Mr. Meeke: What are you reading from?

Mr. Gethin: I am quoting now from "Sheridan's Common-law Cases," a standard book, as you are all aware. In the case reported, a man named Crepps was prosecuted in four separate summonses under the Lord's Day Observance Act for selling four hot rolls at the same time, and he was fined 5s. in respect of each roll. Here is what this authority says:

It was very wrong, of course, of Peter Crepps to be selling hot rolls on a Sunday morning instead of being at church—(laughter)—and, as it could not well be called a work of necessity and charity, it was no doubt a violation of the Act of Charles II. of pious memory. But the Act provides for a fine of 5s. only to be inflicted on the offender, and therefore that worthy Magistrate of Westminster, Mr. Durden, had no business whatever to say that because Crepps had sold four hot rolls he could be fined 12.—that is to say, 5s. a roll. This was distinctly laid down to him by Lord Mansfield. The penalty in regard to this offence is 5s. There is no doubt conveyed by the Act that if a tailor sews on the Lord's Day, every stitch he takes is a separate offence. There can be but one entire offence on the same day.

The Magistrates very unwisely convicted Crepps in that case of four separate offences because he sold four loaves, and what I have read is the commentary of the author of that book on that case. Now, your Worships, this man, Mr. Butler, is prosecuted and two summonses are brought against him for two offences on the same day. I think the case is perfectly plain that you cannot convict on both.

Mr. Meeke: You are relying on very ancient law, and I submit, too, that there is no analogy. If there was analogy, it would be this: if Sergeant Madden had purchased that day not one bottle but several bottles, and had proceeded against Mr. Butler in separate summonses in respect of each bottle—that really would be only one sale. My friend's argument is that selling four similar articles at the same time is not four separate offences. I grant that, but I submit he has not proved, nor has he read anything to prove, that selling poison, and keeping open a shop for the sale of poison, are not two distinct offences. If Sergeant Madden had bought four bottles of this poison I would not have issued four summonses. That phase of Mr. Gethin's argument in the case under the Lord's Day Observance Act is perfectly plain; but the point is—it in no way affects this case. There it was sought to make four offences out of one, but in my case now the offences are different and alternative, and you must give your decision, granting a double penalty.

Some conversation was started by the Bench as to the reduction of the fine of 5l. Mr. Bolger suggested that the extra expense Mr. Butler had been put to might be regarded as a palliative; to which Mr. Meeke replied, No, because he is the law-breaker, and was more than once cautioned already.

Mr. Bolger: Would it not be a palliative for a reduction of the fines even now? Would not one 5l. sufficiently penalise him?

Mr. Hearn: Seeing that it is the unanimous wish of the Bench that the fines should be reduced, would not the Society recommend a reduction?

Mr. Meeke: I cannot say that. I will certainly convey the recommendation to the Society if you wish me to do so.

The Chairman: Well, that is satisfactory.

Mr. Meeke: Am I to take it that you are imposing the two fines?

The Chairman: Yes (and the Chairman accordingly ruled a fine of 5l. in each case).

Mr. Meeke: And what you recommend is that the Society be asked to consent to accept 5l. if the Lord-Lieutenant recommends a reduction?

The Chairman: Yes.

County Court Cases.

RETURNED EMPTIES.

At Shoreditch County Court on November 16, before Judge Smyly, K.C., Barrett & Elers, Ltd., carrying on business at Hackney Wick as the London Carbonic-acid Gas Co., claimed 19l. 5s. from Nobbs, Stent & Co., Ltd., mineral-water manufacturers, Friary Lane, Dorchester, in respect of the non-return of eleven empty gas-cylinders, valued at 35s. each. The defendants set up the plea that they entrusted the cylinders to Henry Burden & Co., West Street Wharf, Poole, Dorset, shippers and forwarding agents, for delivery to the plaintiffs.

A clerk in the employ of the plaintiffs stated that the charged cylinders were sent to the defendants by water on an order dated June 15, 1903. He kept the returns record, and the eleven tubes sent to Dorchester had not since been received at the plaintiffs' works. In cross-examination he said the price of such tubes varied according to the steel-market. The plaintiffs were only charging 35s. each, but if they wanted to buy only eleven tubes just then they would have to pay 55s. each for them.

Counsel for defendants explained to the Judge that the cylinders had got into the wrong hands. There is another carbonic-acid gas concern in the Lea Bridge Road, and the empties had been delivered to them instead of to the plaintiffs.

The Judge: Then in that case I am afraid the defendants have no answer to the claim. According to the agreement the cylinders remain the property of the plaintiffs, and should be returned within thirty days, with ½d. per day demurrage after that period up to three months, the limit

of detention. It seems to me that the defendants are quite as liable as a person would be who borrowed a piano and on returning it handed it to a carrier who failed to deliver it properly. Probably the defendants have ground for action against the carriers, but they themselves are liable for the return of the empties under the agreement.

Counsel urged that the defendants were only bailees of the cylinders, and to make them liable negligence would have to be proved. They were sent to the defendants by a certain route, and the defendants returned them by the same route. In those circumstances what negligence had they been guilty of? The same company carried the goods from London for the plaintiffs, and therefore it was for the plaintiffs to sue the carriers and let them account for the cylinders.

Judge Smyly would not accept that view, and said defendants were liable for the value of the cylinders.

Defendants' counsel then applied to have the carriers joined as defendants, so as to prove the contract with them and save going down to Dorset to support an action against them.

The Judge said they could not be added then, as he had given his decision against the defendants.

Mr. Willan (for Burden & Co.) said he would not object to the proposal, as the carriers were anxious to get at someone else whom they considered liable for the non-delivery.

The Judge observed that it had been decided by the High Court Judges that a third party could not bring in a fourth.

Mr. Willan explained that Burden & Co. handed the cylinders to a firm of wharfingers, who delivered them to another firm of carbonic-acid gas makers. The latter said the cylinders belonged to them, and it seemed to him, therefore, that the real issue was between the present plaintiffs and the other company.

His Honour remarked that the defendants had their remedy against the carriers, and Burden & Co. could then fight it out with the wharfinger. His judgment for the plaintiffs, with costs, must stand as given.

CREOSOTE AND VARNISH.

At the Croydon County Court on November 16, a licensed victualler, named Waller, sued a Mr. Saunders, of Beckenham Road, Penge, for 4*l.* 17*s.* Plaintiff said he was connected with a firm who supplied creosote and varnish, and at defendant's request he ordered 100 gals. of creosote and 80 gals. of varnish for him, of which a portion had been delivered, the remainder being in plaintiff's yard, and defendant could have it if he chose to fetch it. Defendant denied that he ordered the quantity stated by plaintiff, and said he ordered 50 gals. of each, and had received delivery of 50 gals. of creosote and 40 gals. of varnish. The Judge said he accepted plaintiff's version, and gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed.

ACTION FOR WRONGFUL DISMISSAL.

At the Southwark County Court on November 17, before Judge Addison, K.C., Mr. John C. S. Ramsey, manufacturer's manager, Battersea, formerly in the employment of Messrs. Day & Martin, Ltd., sued that company for 40*l.* 15*s.*, being three months' salary in lieu of notice, or, in the alternative, damages for wrongful dismissal. The defendant company paid 3*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* into court, being one week's salary. The statement of counsel, and evidence given at considerable length, showed that the plaintiff is a maker of soap-powders, blues, and bleaching-powders, and had been with the firms of Wybrow and Orlando Jones & Co. When the latter business was transferred to Messrs. Coleman & Co., of Norwich, in 1901, the plaintiff's services were not required, and he entered into an agreement with Day & Martin to take charge of the blue, etc., department. All appeared to go well until a Mr. K. C. Jones was engaged as assistant manager in May 1904. He began to supervise Mr. Ramsey's department, and friction arose. Mr. Jones complained to Mr. Dear, the managing director, and the plaintiff was given a fortnight's leave of absence while a thorough investigation was made into the work of his department. The defendants alleged that the plaintiff gave them erroneous formulæ. For example, that for lavine blue showed 26 lbs. of ultramarine to 112 lbs. of bicarbonate of sodium, whereas he had used, they said, 56 lbs. of ultramarine. In a bleaching-powder he had used starch at 20*l.* a ton instead of alkali at 5*l.* 10*s.* a ton. They further stated that the mixing of the blue was done by guesswork. All

these assertions the plaintiff denied. In the course of the hearing his Honour strongly commented upon the defendants making an inquiry behind the plaintiff's back, and the directors hearing all that was said against him without giving him an opportunity of speaking for himself. In giving his decision for the plaintiff for 40*l.* 15*s.* and costs, his Honour said he could conceive nothing more unjust or unfair than the action of the directors. No misconduct was proved against the plaintiff, who, he said, was dismissed without a proper inquiry.

A VETERINARY-MEDICINE ACCOUNT.

At the Shoreditch County Court on November 21, before Judge Smyly, K.C., the adjourned case was heard off F. Hewthorn & Co., veterinary-medicine manufacturers, 70 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., against Samuel Ringwood, a cab-proprietor, to recover 5*l.* 15*s.* for drugs and medicines supplied (see *C. & D.*, November 11, p. 764). Judge Smyly, in adjourning the case, said the plaintiffs would be well advised if they accepted the return of the goods. Plaintiffs' representative now appeared and said that the goods had been returned, but he asked for costs, and after some discussion the Judge made an order for payment of costs at the rate of 4*s.* a month.

THE LAW OF HIRED CASH-REGISTERS.

At the Shoreditch County Court on November 21, Judge Smyly, K.C., heard an action in which the National Cash-register Co., Ltd., claimed 47*l.* 5*s.* from Joseph Dyke, a publican, of the De Beauvoir Arms, Stamford Road, Kingsland, in respect of a cash-register obtained by Mr. Simpson, a chemist, on the hire system, and disposed of by him to the defendant. Mr. CANNOT was counsel for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Robinson, solicitor, appeared for the defendant. It appeared from the evidence that Mr. Simpson carried on business as a chemist and druggist at various addresses and in various names, the last-known being Livesey & Co., 514 Kingsland Road. He obtained the cash-register and signed the agreement for it, but got into difficulties (County Court orders being made against him), and when he stopped payments the plaintiff company's representative called and discovered that he had gone, but had sold the cash-register to defendant for 20*l.* It was now submitted on their behalf that certain High Court decisions, particularly one by Mr. Justice Grantham in the case of a Bristol ironmonger, showed that they had an inalienable right to the register while the hire agreement was in force. This view was upheld by Judge Smyly, the amount to be reduced to 1*s.* upon the machine being given up.

Bankruptcy Report.

Re ROBERT TOWNSHEND, 28 Old Market Street, Bristol. Chemist and Dentist.—The public examination was opened at the Bristol Bankruptcy Court on November 17. For the debtor it was stated that Townshend purchased the business from Mr. Heal. The liabilities were 420*l.* and assets 92*l.* Debtor's wife claimed 125*l.* for money advanced for purposes of the business. Debtor attributed his failure to long illness, heavy rent, rates and taxes, and depreciation of the business. For the last twelve months the trade expenses had exceeded the takings. The hearing was adjourned to December 8.

WARNING TO CREDITORS.—At a meeting of accountants and auditors held at Leeds last week Mr. W. Claridge (Bradford) stated that a practice has been cropping up wherein a certain class of so-called "accountants" induce a debtor to sign a deed of arrangement privately, without consulting the creditors at all, and simply register the deed, and subsequently notify the creditors of what has been done and ask for their assent to the proceedings. In many cases this artifice has succeeded, and there is no investigation on behalf of the creditors as to the *bona fides* of the statement of affairs. Cases are known in which the assets are notoriously under-estimated, and the creditors over-estimated, for the purpose of justifying a smaller offer or a very small dividend. Mr. Claridge warned the Society against this class of men, and said that, in the interests of commerce generally, it is earnestly to be hoped that henceforth no one will assent to a deed thus privately made, but will send particulars of every such case to, *e.g.*, the Society of Accountants, who will be prepared, in the interests of commerce, to look into the case.

New Companies & Company News.

WILLIAM J. WADE, LTD.—Registered in Dublin. Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of pharmaceutical chemists and druggists known as the Oldcastle Medical Hall. The first subscribers are: W. J. Wade, Oldcastle, chemist and druggist; R. L. Brown, Oldcastle, solicitor; J. McCabe, Oldcastle, grocers' assistant; P. Sheridan, Oldcastle, grazier; Miss T. Fox, Oldcastle; Mrs. M. Gaynor, Garryross, Virginia; and M. Gaynor, Garryross, Virginia, farmer. Registered without articles of association.

PERRY & HOPE, LTD.—Registered in Scotland. Capital 20,000*l.*, in 10,000 6 per cent. preference and 10,000 ordinary shares of 1*l.* each. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturing and analytical chemists at Nitshill, and to manufacture, refine, manipulate, and deal in chemical and other substances, preparations, products, and compounds. The first subscribers are: David Perry, chemical-manufacturer, Nitshill, Renfrewshire; Andrew Milroy, chemist, 48 Dinmont Road, Shawlands, Glasgow; Thos. Irvine, clerk, 36 Carlsbar Road, Barrhead; Wm. Wight, clerk, 38 Garturk Street, Crosshill, Glasgow; Wm. Monaghan, works-foreman, Nitshill; Miss Alice Morton Perry, Norwood, Lenzie; Robert Kerr, writer, 115 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow. Office, Forth and Clyde Chemical-works, Nitshill, near Glasgow.

F. W. BRITAIN, LTD.—Registered in Dublin. Capital 7,000*l.*, in 3,000 preference shares and 4,000 ordinary shares of 1*l.* each. Objects: To acquire and carry on the Drogheda Laundry, and the chemist's business, carried on by F. W. Britain. The first subscribers are R. McIntosh, Wellington Quay, Drogheda, brewers' manufacturer; S. H. Brittain, 84 West Street, Drogheda, laundry engineer; Mrs. A. Boyd, Chord Road, Drogheda; W. Baxter, 84 West Street, Drogheda, pharmaceutical chemist; A. H. Mackey, 12 College Green, Dublin, accountant; E. N. McMullin, Rosario Temple Gardens, Dublin, accountant's clerk; and N. M. Phillips, 90 South Circular Road, Dublin, clerk. The names of the first directors are not given. Registered office, 84 West Street, Drogheda.

CORALIDS, LTD.—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (1,000 management). Objects: To acquire the prescription and the registered trade-mark of the patent medicine known as "Coraloids," to adopt two agreements with A. E. Robinson, and to carry on the business of patent-medicine manufacturers, chemists, druggists, chemical manufacturers, and dealers, druggists, importers and manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations, etc. The first subscribers are: A. E. Robinson, Northgate, Springfield Road, King's Heath, Birmingham, manufacturer; F. H. Pepper, 34 Waterloo Street, Birmingham, solicitor; H. Hackett, 71 Temple Row, Birmingham, C.A.; J. W. Harvey, 28 Algernon Road, Birmingham, accountant; J. E. Smith, 109 Mary Vale Road, Bournville, near Birmingham, cashier; H. Walker, 17 Auckland Road, Smethwick, clerk; and J. Willis, 20 Drayton Road, King's Heath, Birmingham, clerk. Minimum cash subscription 1,000 ordinary shares. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification one share. Remuneration 75*l.* per annum (chairman 100*l.*). Registered office, Broad Street House, New Broad Street, E.C.

ILFORD, LTD.—The directors recommend a final dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares for the half-year ended October 31, making 6½ per cent. for the year.

BONVALEE ET CIE., LTD.—In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on November 21, Mr. Justice Buckley made an order for the compulsory winding-up of this company on the petition of W. H. Hobbs & Co., which was unopposed. The petitioners were creditors for goods sold and delivered to the company, and it was stated that a receiver had been appointed by Judge Rentoul at the City of London Court. The company was incorporated in December 1904, with a capital of 5,000*l.*, to carry on the business of manufacturers of soap and perfumes, its registered office being 35 Bucklersbury, London. In the City of London Court on November 21, Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., had the case of *Wilkinson v. Bonvalee et Cie., Ltd.*, before him again. Mr. C. H. Wilkinson, Derby, sought a declaration that a first-mortgage debenture for 175*l.* issued by the company and now outstanding, in respect to money lent, constituted a first charge on all the company's undertaking, stock-in-trade, and property. The Judge said he would continue the manager and receiver for a month, but he would not make an order for foreclosure or to sell the property now. The plaintiff had substantially made out his case and the Court would make an order in his favour.

DAISY, LTD., Mammoth Works, Leeds, are prepared to give our readers some novel ideas in regard to window-dressing for Christmas.

Our Diary for 1906.

THE first instalment of the thirty-eighth annual issue of THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY is being despatched this week to our subscribers in Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and other parts of the Southern hemisphere, so that they should be delivered free before Christmas. Copies of the DIARY to subscribers in other Colonies and in foreign countries will be despatched as quickly as the binders can turn them out. The same also applies to subscribers in Great Britain, Ireland, and the adjacent islands at home.

Any whose subscriptions expire with this issue, and who have not yet renewed, will oblige by doing so as soon as possible, so that their names may be included in the first lots of DIARIES despatched.

During the thirty-eight years in which THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY has been published we have gauged with fair accuracy the nature of the information which business men connected with Pharmacy and the Chemical and Drug Trades require at a moment's notice, and the contents of the 1906 DIARY are the concrete expression of the ideal. Broadly these are divisible into four groups, of which the first comprises business announcements which are made by several hundred firms and manufacturers whose goods represent the requirements of the trade. The value of this section may be measured by the Buyers' Guide, which is an exhaustive index of all the items advertised and the largest ever published. When one wants anything, reference to the Guide quickly takes him to the proper market.

The literary portion of the DIARY is arranged in three sections, printed on pink paper, readily identified by glancing at the edge. Each of these sections is devoted to correlated matters. The first one comprises the Buyers' Guide and Addresses, including a Directory of Telegraphic Addresses and Telephone Numbers, with Key; lists of Societies and Associations connected with the trade, addresses of General and Learned Societies and Public Offices, and a complete Directory of London Hospitals, with Doctors' Addresses and Guide to Specialists, as well as Postal information, etc.

The second section contains articles dealing with the taxes imposed by the Imperial Government, those which have a more direct bearing upon the Chemists' business being treated with special fulness—e.g., Revenue regulations respecting alcoholic liquors, Medicine Stamp-duty Acts, Pharmacy and Poison Laws, and General Trade Law (revised by Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones). Each of these has an exhaustive index (or the subjects are alphabetically arranged), and subscribers will have no difficulty in getting precise information in this section about administrative and legal difficulties which frequently crop up in business.

The third pink paper section is devoted to technical treatises. The first is a valuable catalogue of books on subjects which chemists and druggists are consulted about. It is divided into groups of subjects alphabetically arranged. Then follow a series of formulas for Known, Admitted, and Approved Remedies, and a treatise on Modern Business Methods, in which is given a budget of valuable hints on the Commercial Side of Pharmacy. Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones contributes an Epitome of the Trade-marks Act which comes into force on April 1, 1906; and Mr. W. Marshall Freeman explains how the Merchandise-marks Acts affect the interests of chemists and druggists.

These general particulars do not exhaust the contents of the DIARY, which, we venture to say, will be found of use to our subscribers every day of the year (even Sundays are provided for), and it is a quick return for the ten shillings annual subscription to the *C. & D.* This is a good time to begin subscribing, as all subscribers on our books on December 2 will get a copy of the 1906 DIARY. Each copy will as usual contain a coupon entitling the receiver to compete for ten guineas in prizes. All communications in regard to subscriptions should be addressed to The Publisher of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

ALMANACS AND CALENDARS.—We shall be glad to receive from subscribers copies of almanacs, calendars, or similar literature which they may be using this season, so that we may comment upon them.

Correspondence

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

BUSINESS INFORMATION.—We have very full records of the makers or agents for articles and products connected with the chemical and drug trades, and supply information respecting them by post to inquirers. Inquiries regarding any articles which cannot be traced in this manner are inserted under "Information Wanted."

How to Get On.

SIR,—I do not know whether "Sheep-dip's" letter needs answering, but as there may be some other poor creatures among your readers who are blaming fortune for the results of their own inefficacy, I venture to oppose a few facts from my personal experience to his woeful tale. Like your correspondent, I missed the advantage of a grammar-school education. I, again like him, was "fooled into the trade" while I was yet too young to choose for myself. My master, whether competent or not, made no attempt to teach me my trade; I had simply to do the rougher work of a very miscellaneous business, though it is true that, being left a good deal alone in the shop, I had for two years a fair share of dispensing to negotiate as best I could. I took no lectures, went to no school, and had no guidance whatever. So far from this, I even learned by heart, from a second-hand book I bought, the whole of the Linnæan system of plant-classification before discovering that it had been superseded. Nevertheless, I passed the Preliminary in my fifth year, and qualified four years afterwards. I commenced business on my own account when thirty-two years old, having then not a penny of my own, and I have no reason to complain of the result. I do not say this to boast, for there is nothing extraordinary in it. Hundreds and thousands of other lads have done as well or better. My chief friend of olden times, who was fellow-assistant under me for two years in a West-end shop, started life as bottle-washer and errand-lad to a country surgeon, and ended it as partner in one of the leading drug-businesses in China; another old chum, who began in a country business in a remote part of Wales, died high up in the employ of Messrs. Roberts, of Florence; my own brother, who entered the trade in his thirty-fifth year (he had been farming up to that time, and had, of course, everything to learn), passed the Preliminary three months afterwards, and the Minor exactly three years after that. His only experience of the business had been gained in a country village, where he had absolutely none of the advantages the lack of which your correspondent so pathetically deplores. He now owns two flourishing businesses. Coming back to more personal matters, I may add that the two best assistants I ever had came to me as errand-lads direct from a board-school. They both passed the Preliminary while with me, and both qualified in due course. One of them has for years been flourishing in one of the best businesses (entirely of his own creation) on the Welsh coast; the other is still with me, being yet quite young. My business is of a very mixed sort, in a country place of less than 2,000 inhabitants, yet another of my apprentices, of the same class as the two already spoken of, passed his Preliminary while still with me, and went straight from me to a first-rate pharmacy in Bournemouth, where he remained for a long time. All this proves, I think, that even in the drug-trade, and under anything but favourable conditions, a man's fate is pretty much in his own hands, and that if he becomes an "undesirable" the fault is probably his own. I do not say that the system under which I grew up is the best possible one, but I do say that so far as my own experience, or the testimony of friends in the trade, goes, those young men who have been through a course of the old-fashioned, much-despised apprenticeship are, as a rule, far more satisfactory as assistants than the modern college-made variety.

And thirty-five years ago when, a newly engaged assistant, I entered the shop of a chemist at Hove who had been for five years with Mr. Peter Squire, he greeted me with the question, "I forgot to ask; have you passed the Major?" and, in reply to my answer in the negative, said fervently, "Thank God! If you had, I'd have given you a month's salary to go back."—Yours, etc..

LAUDATOR TEMPORIS ACTI. (134/23.)

The New Position.

SIR,—Mr. James Reid, in his letter of November 4, suggests that the Pharmaceutical Council are weary of the fray, and are on the point of surrender. I cannot conceive a position that such a capitulation would create. Stand or fall, we must have at least one qualified managing director in every limited liability company, and that director should be responsible for the acts of his subordinates. The mere presence of a qualified "tied slave," as Mr. Reid so aptly puts it, in any or every shop retailing poisons is no real protection to the public at large, and the protection of the public against their own ignorance or wilfulness is the only ground on which we can go to Parliament with any possibility of success. A matter of much greater importance from a practical point of view would be the enactment of a law forbidding, under a penalty of imprisonment, the selling of a scheduled poison by anyone unless he or she be a duly qualified and registered chemist, thereby abolishing that fictitious supervision which plays so large a part in the sale of poisons in modern pharmacies and drug-stores. It seems to be the legal interpretation of the Pharmacy Act that, so long as a qualified man is on the roof or in the cellar, anyone else on the premises may sell poisons with impunity. Let me illustrate this from my personal experience. I am a qualified and registered chemist. I have been in the employ of a large firm of chemists having many branches in the South of England. I occupied a secondary position at my branch, and my manager and the rest of the staff were unqualified. I received no instructions as to the sale of poisons or as to the supervision thereof, and they were habitually sold by any member of the staff without any supervision on my part. The Society, learning of this state of affairs, made a purchase of poison from the unqualified manager, and the usual penalty was subsequently demanded. The manager pleaded that he sold the poison under my direct supervision (a fact of which I was not previously aware). The Society did not prosecute because there was a qualified man somewhere in the shop when the purchase was made. This may be law, but it is not just to the public, for whose protection the Society exists. I do not blame the Society in this: it is the result of the interpretation of the law by those not fully acquainted with the intricacies of such cases. I am not at liberty to mention names, as there are some prosecutions pending against employees of this same firm for breaches of the Pharmacy Act; but I may say that in one town alone, which the Society raided, out of fourteen pharmacies only four had qualified men in them, and of these four only two were in charge. This company has qualified chemists on its directorate, one of them a man of public affairs, who knows the law as well as I do. When poisons are sold in this manner under the *ægis* of qualified managing directors, and in some cases with qualified men in the shop, where does the protection of the public come in? The only certain remedy is to confine the sale of scheduled poisons to qualified men absolutely, under a penalty of imprisonment without the option of a fine. Without such a law no registration of shops, of managers, or managing directors will be of any practical value. That such a state of affairs should exist is a disgrace to pharmacy. That such an obviously erroneous interpretation of the Pharmacy Act should be allowed to stand as law is incredible, and the need of legislation far more drastic than the mere appointment of qualified directors must be patent to all. I send you herewith the names and particulars of the firm I allude to, and the Pharmaceutical Society can verify my statements.

JUSTICIA. (134/51.)

"Minor" Considerations.

SIR,—“Cosmopolite's” letter in the *C. & D.* of November 18 makes interesting reading. He has dealt with the figures of the Minor examination in a masterly fashion. He asks what becomes of the large percentage of failures who face the music once and are seen no more at Bloomsbury

Square, and sounds a note of pity for those who have gone to swell the ranks of the unqualified. Speaking as one of these "undesirables," may I tell him where to look for a good many of us? Taking my district, and those whom I can lay claim to as friends and acquaintances, I know of several within a hundred miles of Piccadilly Circus. One is a valued assistant in a well-known West-end house, not a much-despised "stores." He has been there over five years to my certain knowledge; he draws a sufficiently good salary to enable him to marry and settle outside London. Another is senior assistant in a high-class dispensing business, doing well; he has been four years in the berth and still is going strong. Two others are managers in good businesses, married and living in comfortably fitted houses. Yet another is senior, whose only growl is at the poor specimens of qualified juniors he gets. All these instances are well paid and comfortable, and have held their positions in no case less than four years. Probably others can say where many more of these "undesirables" are. In the instances I cite the employers are sharp, shrewd business men, making their way successfully, competing with "stores," and yet have not low-class "cutting" shops. Not with cheap labour; they pay their assistants well, and would not jeopardise their business by keeping incompetent men at a low wage. They recognise that "qualification" and efficiency are not necessarily synonymous terms. They know that a nine-months' course at Bloomsbury Square does not of necessity mean hard-working, level-headed, conscientious assistants. It only too often means "swelled head," and the proud possessor of the M.P.S. is apt to regard work-a-day pharmacy life as *infra dig*. Why should a man who can fill a sheet of foolscap with variations of the benzene ring lower himself to the making of pills? He can describe in verbose detail the life-history of a plant: why should he sink his professional status and retail "penn'orths"? This theoretical knowledge is all very pretty, but of what practical use is it? This is a business age, and a chemist wants business men around him—men who can dispense and serve his customers to his and their satisfaction. Someone says, "Why, if you unqualified men are so smart, don't you bring it to bear in the examination-room?" Alas! it counts for nothing there. The rankest duffer will scramble through the Minor, but fail to hold a berth in a business-house three months, whereas a competent assistant will hold a berth of trust for years, but be ploughed at Bloomsbury. "Once bitten, twice shy." Most of the examples I give have been twice bitten, and are now exceptionally shy. We all came down about the same time; our fees were our own hard earnings; we had no moneyed parents at our backs. A willingness to work, and work hard, was our only asset when the Minor had swallowed up our earnings in fees, living, etc. We secured good berths, some with pharmaceutical chemists, and we still hold them. Comfortable, as happy as a pharmacist can be with long hours and duty, and earning good "screws," we live in hopes that when the crash comes that "Cosmopolite" seems to prophesy, a better state of examination will be inaugurated. In the meanwhile we are very shy of wasting our money; we prefer to keep it ourselves rather than help to support learned professors and large colleges. Such experience is costly, and makes one angry to see his registered colleague wandering round the shop to find where *inf. ejusdem* is kept, and on seeing "tere bene" at the bottom of a prescription ask how many drops he had better put in. It is galling to see that sort of man scramble through his dispensing examination, but finally come out a fully qualified chemist, and another man to be complimented upon his neatness and accuracy, and then be told he is ploughed because he is "weak in botany."

London, November 20. UNQUALIFIED. (134/33.)

A Different View.

SIR.—The Society has worse troubles than a shortage of candidates. For instance, "shortness of cash," which is usually supposed to be next in importance to a "stoppage of breath." The Society is in the same position as the ordinary chemist's shop—"full up" of unsaleable stock (of half-baked tradesmen, as Dr. McWalter says). Far too many shops already; 10,000 in England and Wales; quite 3,000 not needed. "They never would be missed." Deaths reported in *C. & D.* in 1900 were 332. About 50 per cent. of these were retired chemists, doctors, professors, whole-

salers, or women. Thus we need annually about 150 qualified men to keep the trade going, even in its present overloaded state. The fact is (in England and Wales) that when the big chemist in a town gets his one-third of the trade—there always is one big chemist—and the company shop another third, you will have to look for five more men (at least) to add up to the remaining third. Why, then, keep on pouring in men to starve? We have even now a twenty years' stock of men (mostly useless, I admit) for business purposes. I suggest "Shut up shop" in Bloomsbury for five years, sack the staff and the examiners, and sublet the rooms for that school of salesmanship suggested by "Xrayser."

ONE OF THE TRIBE OF JESSE. (133/42.)

What Should be Done?

SIR.—I fail to see why such variable retail charges for patents should continue when the face value on the majority of proprietaries is the same uniform price as adopted for generations past. There is neither uniformity nor unity in the drug-trade. The wholesale P.M. firms are powerful enough to remedy this nuisance. I should like to know if there are any of the same opinion and views on the matter, and whether this suggestion is feasible and practical. Why should not the wholesale dealer refuse to pay one proprietor more than another for 1s. 1½d. or 2s. 9d. remedies, and insist on one fair price for all? I maintain that the existing chaos in this branch demands drastic measures. Let each one be given a month's notice to consider this necessary reform. Is it not excessively selfish and impudent on the part of one specially gigantic advertiser to exact 12s. per dozen (the full retail value less stamp-duty) from the overburdened little retailer? It surprises me that any firm should pamper the man in such covetousness by listing the same at 14s. 4d. per dozen, subject. The P.A.T.A. has done much in bringing about protected prices, but it would have been doubly prosperous if face value or less stamp-duty was made one of the permanent conditions. The Pharmaceutical Society still show want of foresight; no effort is made to approach the apprentice and assistant. Why not draw up stringent rules permanently advantageous to the trade and individual. Have medals struck which would bind the possessor to strictly conform to them. I can imagine how proud he would feel having the privilege to call himself a "Pharmaceutical Medallist." I would go so far as to make it customary to invite candidates to accept the medal before they enter the examination-room. It is deplorable that a very high percentage of students offer a very gross insult to the examiners in qualifying to secure posts under Boots and other companies when they would do much better in putting up with the inconvenience of longer hours for a few years in the retail instead of adopting a course utterly destroying the prospects of freedom and self-proprietorship. We ought to have laws of our own which would compensate us for the non-effective half measure so constructed by the omission of a clause to give Mr. Boot further encouragement in increased attention to drugs and the process of gradual annihilation to his victims. Now, although the Society cannot remove a person from the register, they could deal with membership and associateship. Mr. — uses his title M.P.S. to great advantage, doing an enormous business amongst grocers and oilmen in the supply of penny bottles of cough-syrup, and from that to camphorated oil, toothache-essence, and all the penny pills and ointments of the B.P. We are very weak and broken down to stand this so quietly. The time has come to organise and agitate to raise a large sum of money, the weapon which our enemies crush us with. A little more self-denial and fewer Hôtel Cecil and Hôtel Métropole dinners would be one of the means to avert further disaster before it is too late.

PORT ARTHUR. (135/27.)

[Our correspondent has given us the name of the member of the Pharmaceutical Society referred to in the above letter. EDITOR.]

Apothecaries' Assistants.

SIR.—In your editorial in this day's CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST you say there is little more to be said on the subject. If you will pardon me, I should like to say that this matter has hardly, as yet, had the fringe of its garment touched. The editorial opens up several points of importance. For instance, you assert that the wording of the assistant's certificate is plain enough as to the word apothecary, etc. You have evidently forgotten that the statement

"This certificate does not entitle the holder to practise as an apothecary" has now for some years been omitted from the certificate of the Society of Apothecaries of London. Another important point suggested to me by your article is this. Could a pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist legally act as dispenser to an apothecary without taking the assistant's certificate of the Society? The certificates now granted by the London Hall are very much larger than formerly, though they are quite differently worded from those granted twenty-five years ago, which in their turn were totally different from those granted in the early 'seventies. These latter very nearly resembled the diploma of L.S.A., and might almost be taken for it. It is interesting to note that the certificates have frequently been changed as regards both size and wording, and one wonders why this should be. Also why have the arms of the Society been replaced after having been omitted for a quarter of a century? Will you permit me to imagine a case, and if you are sufficiently interested I should like your opinion thereon? Not far from here there is a gentleman who practises both medicine and surgery by virtue of his recently having obtained the L.S.A. Quite near to him is the proprietor of a drug-store, whose only qualification is the assistant's certificate of the Society of Apothecaries. My argument is that if this medical man arranged with the drug-store man to undertake all his dispensing, the latter would be within his rights to dispense and charge for all prescriptions sent to him, even if they contained such articles as chlorodyne, nux vomica, and the like. He would, I contend, while dispensing these prescriptions, be immune from the operations of the Pharmacy Acts, and could hand the bottle containing these scheduled poisons to the patient, and take the pay for it too. The sequel would come if Mr. Foulds, or any other Pharmaceutical Society's spy, obtained one of these prescriptions and took it to the apothecary's assistant to dispense. I believe the Society of Apothecaries would defend the holder of their certificate if he was prosecuted by the Pharmaceutical Society, and, personally, I am longing for such a case to come before the Courts, although I do not for a moment imagine that the latter Society would be so indiscreet as to prosecute in a case of this kind.

I am, etc.,

CHAS. F. FORSHAW, D.D.S.

Bradford, November 17.

[In the Apothecaries' Society's printed lists of candidates who have been granted "the certificate of qualification to act as an assistant to an apothecary in compounding and dispensing medicines" the following regularly occurs:

Note.—The Certificate does not convey the right to assume any title on the part of the person to whom it is granted.

We reprint the note in the same type as that used by the Society. The suppositious case put by our correspondent is a matter of evidence in regard to the proprietorship of the drug-store. If the assistant is the owner, he would have to explain to the Court how he is that and the assistant (*i.e.*, the employé) of the apothecary at one and the same time. By Section 20 of the Apothecaries Act it is unlawful for any person to act as an assistant to an apothecary without the certificate granted by the Society of Apothecaries; consequently a chemist and druggist or pharmaceutical chemist would be liable to the penalty under the Section if he happened to be employed by an L.S.A. who is not a registered medical practitioner.—EDITOR.]

Is the P.A.T.A. Black-list a Farce?

SIR,—I note "Rad. Rhei's" communication under above heading, and I, too, am of opinion that the black-list is a failure. The trouble is that the P.A.T.A. was invented for and received the financial support of the drug-trade, but to-day we find that numerous firms of grocers, drapers, iron-mongers, hairdressers, co-operative societies, etc., have been attracted by the much-advertised baits, with the result that the P.A.T.A. has lost control. As I write a copy of the black-list lies before me; it is not the latest, but near enough for me to quote from. The names of nearly one hundred traders appear thereon, and to-day we still find that supplies are withheld from cutters in nearly all the largest towns in England, Ireland, and Wales as follows: London, York, Sunderland, Sheffield, Manchester, Middlesborough, Belfast, Cardiff, Southampton, Liverpool, Birkenhead, Birmingham, Nottingham, Derby, Dublin, Leeds, etc. One of

the first names mentioned is the Army and Navy Stores. This particular firm have a large turnover in the drug department—at least sufficient to retain the services of over twenty assistants at the counter—and in this department we must naturally assume that they supply a fair proportion of P.A.T.A. articles. Just recently a friend of mine purchased Hommel's Hæmatogen from them at 2s. 6d. (fixed price 2s. 9d.)—and the article was "protected" by the P.A.T.A., I believe, in 1902; a week or so earlier Beetham's Larola was purchased at 10d. (1s. size)—this particular article was "protected" previous to Hommel's! Now, how is it done? How do they continue to obtain the goods to sell at "cut" rates? Is the Army and Navy account so large that the P.A.T.A. blink at it; and do certain dealers "forget" to notice the frequent orders for them? Where do the supplies come from? Would the P.A.T.A. officials have 30,000 chemists believe that the stocks of Hommel's and Larola which the A. & N. had on hand in 1902 have lasted out to this date? If the officials do not wish to hoodwink the trade thus, there is only one other conclusion to arrive at—that 100 "cutters" can obtain, through some channel, all the supplies of P.A.T.A. goods they require, and the P.A.T.A., the black-list, and the Wholesale Section are quite helpless to stop it; while the remainder of the trade look anxiously on and wonder at the decreasing demand.

Yours, etc.,

RED ROBIN. (136/62.)

* * Other correspondence and replies in type are unavoidably held over.

Dispensing Notes.

A Curious Ointment.

SIR,—We have had the following ointment to dispense:

Pulv. gallæ	3j.
Pulv. opii	gr. xx.
Ol. eucalypti	mx.
Adipem lanæ hydros. ad ...	3ij.

About ten days the top turned nearly black, but underneath the ointment was unaltered in appearance. What is the cause of the change?

Yours truly,

YEOMAN. (76/27.)

[There is a curious fungoid growth on the top of the ointment, the tips of the white needle-like growth being oxidised to brown, which probably owes its origin to a ferment in the galls called into activity by the presence of water. The use of anhydrous lanoline should be a means of avoiding the trouble.]

Nux-vomica Mixture.

SIR,—I recently dispensed a mixture containing 5ij. each of tr. nucis. vom., tr. calumbæ, and spt. ammon. arom., and 5j. spt. chlorof. with water to 8 oz. I used tap-water. After a few hours the mixture was returned to me of a fairly bright green colour, which I could not account for. I made up another bottle, which was also returned, having gone the same colour. I find the green colour is produced by the nux vom. and sal volatile, and I cannot produce a mixture without it going green. I have never known such a thing to occur before. I find that with aq. destil. it is not such an intense green, but still it is there. I have tested the tr. nuc. vom. for copper and iron, but neither is present. The strange part is that I previously made it up and my customer says it did not change colour, and that either I made a mistake the first time or now. No one else has dispensed it. The first tr. nucis vomicæ was made from a concentrated liquor, but this I have obtained from a drug-house ready made. If you can give me any information to solve the apparent mystery, I shall be obliged. Yours faithfully,

Maida Hill, N.W.

W. G. BURGE.

[Nux vomica contains igasuric acid and a trace of copper, the latter being derived from the soil, but some samples may be free from copper. In any case igasuric acid and the mere trace of copper form with ammonia a greenish-blue solution, but the exact conditions determining the production of this colour have not been thoroughly worked out. Our correspondent may assure his customer that the colour is natural, and has no effect on the efficacy of the medicine.]

Legal Queries.

Ilex (128/61) gave an agent (for the sale of his shop) the lease of the premises, and cannot get it back. What is he to do?—Our subscriber's remedy is very simple. He should make a formal written demand for the lease, and threaten proceedings in default. His best plan is to write to the agent with an appointment to receive the lease, and demand that the same should be handed over. The person who attends the appointment should have our subscriber's written authority to receive the document. If it is not then handed over, a writ should be issued claiming its return and damages for its detention.

M. A. C. (135/1).—The sale of vermin-killer by wholesale to a retail dealer is exempt from the provisions of the first fifteen sections of the Pharmacy Act, 1868—that is to say, the seller does not require to be qualified.

Veleda (129/26).—The sale of "a recipe for the making of Condy's fluid" would most likely be stopped by an order of the High Court, and the seller would probably have to pay the costs of the proprietors of the fluid, who would make the application. This has happened in the case of other proprietary articles.

Meta (129/55).—The impression conveyed to our mind by the use of the words "copyright," "trade-mark," and "registered" in juxtaposition is that the design is a registered trade-mark, and this is an illegal description when applied to a mark which is merely entered at Stationers' Hall. You may say on the design "Trade-mark" and beneath it "Copyright. Entered at Stationers' Hall." It is an offence under the Patent, Trade-marks, etc., Acts to describe as "Registered trade-mark" a mark not registered under those Acts.

Victory (20/190).—The fact that the article is on the P.A.T.A. list has nothing to do with the completed transaction between you and your customer. The contract between you was completed when you handed him the article and received the money which you asked and he tendered. There is no legal ground upon which you can make the customer pay for your own error.

New Subscriber (268/1).—A label for neuralgic powders, with your name and designation "chemist and dentist," is not contrary to the General Medical Council's published warning as to advertising by dentists, and we do not think the Council would regard this as the issue of advertisements of such an objectionable character as to constitute infamous conduct in a professional respect, which alone justifies removal of a name from the register.

Veritas (136/60).—It is not possible for us to estimate the value of the lease, so many circumstances incidental to the locality and the nature of the property influencing the value. Only a local surveyor can properly advise you.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

Urgent (133/74).—Something has still to be found which will prevent the water in motor-car pipes freezing when put into it. Glycerin has been tried and found to ruin the rubber joints in a single night. Perhaps some motor-enthusiast can send us a hint or two "for the common good."

B. & B. (126/52).—Glue can be made insoluble by adding a small quantity of potassium bichromate. This fact is made use of in many technical operations.

Booco (126/58).—(1) Oil of mirbane is the most successful scent for covering the odour of turpentine in furniture-cream. (2) TOMATO SAUCE.—The following recipe illustrates the method of making the thick sauces which have become popular of late years. The tomato basis can be replaced by apple pulp or tamarind liquor to make other varieties of sauce:

Tomatoes	...	...	...	100 lbs.
Salt	...	...	...	1 lb. 2 oz.
Bay-leaves	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Cloves	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Onions	...	...	...	3 lbs.

Boil the tomatoes and onions in an enamelled vessel till reduced to pulp, adding the bay-leaves, cloves, and salt towards the end of the process. Then rub the whole through a fine sieve, diluting with a sufficiency of vinegar to give the proper consistence. After bottling the sauce is sterilised by placing the bottles in water and heating to 220° F. for from 15 to 30 minutes.

(3) Your skin-cream inquiry was answered in the *C. & D.*, October 28, p. 702.

F. H. H. (122/25).—VIPER OIL is usually a mixture of lard oil 3 parts, skunk oil 1 part. Skunk oil is obtained from *Mephitis mephitis*, one of the skunk family, and is a yellowish, bland oil, generally with a characteristic odour. The fat of vipers was formerly used as an ointment basis. Genuine viper oil was, we believe, formerly obtainable from a New Forest snake catcher.

J. H. M. (Capo Colony) (126/19).—(1) The free use of boric-acid powder is best for excessive perspiration under the arms. (2) PILE-OINTMENT:

Ung. gallæ c. opio	...	...	...	3ss.
Ung. acid. borici	...	...	...	3ss.
Ung. acid. carbolic	...	...	...	3ss.
Iodoformi	...	...	...	gr. v.
Mentholi	...	...	...	gr. v.

Misce bene.

(3) The ELIXIR OF THYME, for which a formula was given in the *C. & D.*, September 23, p. 523, is intended as a specific for whooping-cough. Mr. Wilbert devised the recipe for use in a children's hospital, and good results are reported from the United States. The elixir has but a limited use in Great Britain.

Formic (130/63).—DOSE OF FORMIC ACID.—This would be from half to one minim, well diluted with water; it is best administered in the form of spiritus formicarum, for which a formula was given in the *C. & D.*, October 21, p. 661. The dose of spt. formicarum is 20 to 60 minims.

S. C. P. (Bengal) (125/32).—BOOT-VARNISH.—The formula for "Brilliant Boot-polish" ("Ph. F.," new edition, p. 380) is the one you require. Omit the aniline black if the varnish is for brown boots.

D. F. A. (125/33).—(1) You could not make curd soap in small quantities to equal that made on a manufacturing scale. If your present supply is so unpleasant try another maker; there is no difficulty in getting an odourless and sweet soap. (2) The hydrocyanic acid in the emulsion may be disregarded as regards the Pharmacy Act if the quantity present is infinitesimal.

F. J. (123/7).—INFANT'S SOOTHING AND TEETHING POWDER.—The formula which you send contains too much bismuth carbonate, 5 grains being sufficient for an adult in the case of digestive troubles, and more tends to constipate—a most undesirable thing, in the case of infants especially. The following modification will suit your purpose better:

Hydrarg. c. cretæ	...	...	...	3j.
Pulv. jalapæ	...	...	...	3j.
Phenacetin.	...	...	...	3j.
Bismuthi carbonat.	...	...	...	3ij.
Sodii bicarbonat.	...	...	...	3ij.
Saccharini	...	...	...	gr. v.

Triturate together thoroughly for five minutes and sift. Weigh into 4-grain powders.

Doses: For a child between two and six months half a powder, up to twelve months a whole powder.

J. L. (113/43).—(1) COUGH-MIXTURE.—Your formula is needlessly complicated; the following would be as satisfactory and more elegant:

Vin. ipecacuanhæ	...	...	...	℥v.
Aceti scillæ	...	...	...	℥v.
Spt. chloroformi	...	...	...	℥x.
Syr. toluani	...	...	...	3ij.
Syr. rhæados	...	...	...	3ij.
Decoct. cetrariæ ad	...	...	...	3j.

M.

Morphine may be added if desired.

(2) Your TURPENTINE LINIMENT is cheap and good, but would you not prefer one made with spirit, such as the following?

Capsici	...	...	...	3j.
Spirit. vini	...	...	...	3x℥.
Menthol.	...	...	...	3ss.
Ol. eucalypti	...	...	...	3j.
Ol. ricini	...	...	...	3v.
Tr. lavand. eo.	...	...	...	q.s.

M. S. A.

(3) RINGWORM ON CATTLE.—Your preparation is not a pharmaceutical triumph. It is not a lotion, an ointment, or a pigment. You will find some useful hints in "Veterinary Counter-practice." If you want a pigment, try this:

Potassii bichrom.	...	...	...	3j.
Aquæ	...	...	...	3xij.

Solve.

The following makes a good ointment:

Sulphur. nig.	...	...	...	3j.
Ung. hydrargyri	...	...	...	3j.
Creosoti	...	...	...	3ij.
Vasellini vet.	...	...	...	3ij.

M.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., November 23.

BUSINESS in a general way continues slow, demand being chiefly for small quantities. There are, however, a fair number of alterations in values. Among chemicals there is still a great temporary scarcity of permanganate of potash, and the business is entirely from second-hands. Copper sulphate is very firm and in good demand, and nitrate of soda is dearer. Iodine is as yet unaltered. Alterations in fine chemicals include an advance of 2*d.* in English-refined camphor, and a rise of 1*d.* in nitrate of silver, in sympathy with the metal. In drugs and oils a further rise has taken place in refined spermaceti and castor oil. Cassia oil is much firmer and in improved demand, star-aniseed oil being steady. Citronella oil, however, is weaker, owing to cheaper offers for shipment. Fenugreek is rather firmer for Morocco. Cod-liver oil* is lower, as are lycopodium, ipecac., nux vomica, and turpentine. Chamomiles are exceedingly scarce, and likely to be much dearer later on.

The following are the principal alterations of the week, including the changes recorded at the drug-auctions:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Calumba	Antimony	Ammonia	Cod liver oil
Camphor	Cassia oil	sulphate	Ipecacuanha
(ref. Eng.)	Castor oil	Benzoin	Lycopodium
Caves	Fenugreek-	(Sumatra)	Nutmegs
(Penang)	seed	Cassia lignea	Nux vomica
Copper	Spermaceti	Citronella oil	Rosin
sulphate			Turpentine
Dragon's			
blood			
Honey (Jam.)			
Petroleum oil			
Potash			
permang.			
Silver nitrate			
Soda nitrate			

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, November 23 :—Refined camphor, star-aniseed oil, and castor oil are all firmly held.

NEW YORK, November 23 :—The drug-market is quiet. Druggists' opium in single cases is easier and has fallen 3*c.* to \$3.12 per lb. Quinine is easy at last week's reduced quotation of 19*c.* per oz. for German. Menthol is easier and prices have been reduced by 10*c.* to \$2.65 per lb. Senega at 60*c.* per lb. and copaiba at 28*c.* per lb. are also easier. Wahoo bark of root is higher, and is now quoted at 60*c.* per lb. Mandrake root at 4*c.* per lb. is quiet and Rio ipecac. at \$1.75 is slow of sale.

Arrivals.

The following drugs, chemicals, etc., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from November 16 to 22, inclusive: Aloes (@ Mossel Bay), 41; annatto (@ Bordeaux), 30; arrowroot (@ Durban), 135 cs.; benzoin (@ Singapore), 4 cs.; bismuth (@ Sydney), 23 cs.; bleaching-powder (@ Treport), 24; buchu (@ Cape Town), 5; camphor oil (@ Hamburg), 50 cs.; cardamoms (@ Colombo), 34; castor oil (@ Leghorn), 20 cs.; chamomiles, (@ Ghent) 14, (@ Antwerp) 7; cinchona, (@ Colombo) 28, (@ Tuticorin) 46, (@ Bombay) 31; coca-leaves (@ Ceylon), 17; cochineal (@ Las Palmas), 17; cod-liver oil (@ Aalsund), 40 brls.; coriander seed, (@ Madras) 560, (@ Vizagapatam) 291; cream of tartar, (@ Bordeaux) 165, (@ Marseilles) 17; cumin-seed

(@ Malta), 48; dragon's blood (@ Singapore), 11; eucalyptus oil, (@ Melbourne) 141 cs., (@ Hobart) 17, (@ Sydney) 20; fennel-seed (@ Salonica), 450; guinea grains (@ W. C. Africa), 45; gum, unenumerated, (@ Suez) 122 bds., 194 pkgs. *in tr.*, (@ Lisbon) 47 bxs., (@ Alexandria) 36; honey, (@ Trieste) 45 cs., (@ Coquimbo) 51, (@ Valparaiso) 314; iodine (@ Valparaiso), 31; liquorice (@ Bordeaux), 31 cs.; olibanum (@ Bombay), 51; opium, (@ Smyrna) 67 cs. *in tr.*, (@ Marseilles) 15 cs., (@ Constantinople) 56; potash chlorate (@ Antwerp), 60; roots (@ Rio), 4 bls.; saccharin (@ Antwerp), 5 cs.; saffron (@ Valencia), 4; sal ammoniac (@ Amsterdam), 86; senna (@ Alexandria), 50; soy, (@ Kobe) 114, (@ Hong Kong) 100; spermaceti (@ Valparaiso), 31; sticklac (@ Singapore), 95 cs.; tartar, (@ Bordeaux) 50, (@ Barcelona) 12; vanilla (@ Marseilles), 131 cs.; wax, bees', (@ Australia) 21, (@ Coquimbo) 3, (@ Bombay) 15, (@ Valparaiso) 44; wax, Japanese (@ Antwerp), 34; wood oil (@ Shanghai), 279.

Heavy Chemicals.

The general good demand in the heavy-chemical market is well maintained, and otherwise the all-round tone is much the same as lately reported. Home consuming trades are for the most part well employed, and there is a good request both on contract and miscellaneous account from such consumers as papermakers, dyers, and calico printers and bleachers. Soap manufacturers too find orders plentiful, both as regards household and manufacturing qualities. Values keep on the firm side.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA only keeps weak in tone, but quotations are nominally unchanged from those last given.

BENZOLS continue steady, with good business doing; 90-per-cent. at 10*d.* to 10½*d.* and 50-per-cent. at 10*d.* to 10½*d.* per gal.

SULPHOCYANIDES are in somewhat better request, but, nevertheless, can only be described as quiet. There is no change in quotations, which therefore continue as follows: Potassium, 7½*d.* to 7½*d.* per lb.; ammonium, 95 per cent., 6½*d.* to 6½*d.*; and barium, 95 per cent., 3½*d.* to 3½*d.*

GREEN COPPERAS continues in steady request for both home and export at unaltered figures, and a fair business has already been done over next year. Best Lancashire makes 37*s.* 6*d.* to 40*s.* per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool, and Welsh 11*s.* to 12*s.* per ton, free on rails in bulk.

ZINC SALTS are on the firm side, and are fetching rather more money. Zinc sulphate crystals, 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton; zinc chloride, 100° Tw. solution, 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton.

German Drug-market.

Hamburg, November 21.

Values of drugs have not much changed since last week.

AGAR-AGAR is firm, prime being quoted 295*m.* per 100 kilos. ARABOBA.—One hundred cases have arrived here.

ANISEED is steady at 57*m.* per 100 kilos. for Russian.

CAMPHOR.—Refined is very firm; 720*m.* per 100 kilos. has been paid.

CANTHARIDES are firm at 10½*m.* per kilo.

COCAINE is still unchanged.

CITRIC ACID is firmer at from 265*m.* to 270*m.* per 100 kilos.

CARNAUBA WAX is quiet; current grey is 275*m.*, and fat grey 290*m.* to 285*m.* per 100 kilos.

ERGOT meets with more demand; 380*m.* per 100 kilos. is asked.

GALANGAL is tending firmer at 27*m.* per 100 kilos.

IPECACUANHA is lower at 16*m.* per kilo.

GOLDEN SEAL is quiet at 13½*m.* per kilo.

LYCOPodium is quiet at from 490*m.* to 480*m.* per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is dull at 18*m.* per kilo., and forward is lower.

JAPANESE WAX is tending firmer; spot is quoted 106*m.* per 100 kilos., and forward 104*m.* per 100 kilos.

KOLA is in fair demand at 70*m.* per 100 kilos.

QUININE is quiet at 29*m.* per kilo.

SPERMACETI is firmer at 270*m.* per 100 kilos.

OILS (FIXED).—Castor is firmer; first-pressing in barrels is quoted 48½*m.* per 100 kilos. Chinese wood on the spot is 61*m.* per 100 kilos.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Star-aniseed is firmer at 11½*m.* per kilo.; peppermint H.G.H. is unchanged at 13½*m.* per lb.; Japanese is dull at 10½*m.* to 10*m.* per kilo.; cassia is firmer at 7½*m.* per kilo.

BELLADONNA-ROOT.—Good alkaloidal quality sells readily at from 38*s.* to 40*s.* per cwt., c.i.f.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—The current issue of the "American Druggist," quoting from the "Advocate," states that, according to reliable estimates given out by the North-west Chittim Co., of Chehalis (the largest buyer of bark on the Pacific Coast), a total of 580 tons of cascara bark was peeled in Lewis County during the past season. Of this amount probably 400 tons has been sold by those peeling it for 3*c.* per lb., and some got a shade better than 3*c.* Between 400 and

500 tons of the bark is in Washington and Oregon, awaiting better prices. In London no business is reported, and our last quotation of 25s., c.i.f., still holds good.

CHAMOMILES.—The scarcity in Belgium appears to be getting more pronounced, and it is said that there are not 200 bales in the producing districts, so that by the time the principal consumption is at hand (February, March, and April) extreme prices are likely to be paid. It is also said the current season commenced with small supplies of 1904 crop, which adds to the strength of the position. One holder of new crop has advanced his price to 100s. for finest, and from Belgium 90s. is quoted. Old-crop brown flowers are quoted 82s. 6d. on the spot.

CINCHONA.—The stock in first-hands at Amsterdam on November 16 consisted of 6,131 packages of Government bark and 29,442 packages of private bark, or a total of 35,573 packages; these figures include the quantity to be offered at auction on December 7. The Amsterdam brokers received a telegram on November 16 stating that the shipments from Java to Europe during the first half of November amounted to 1,100,000 Amst. lbs., but on November 20 a further telegram was received stating that the correct figures from November 1 to 15 were 670,000 Amst. lbs. The above error is attributed to the fact that a cargo of bark on a steamer which sailed on November 16 was included in the original figures. In the drug-auctions eight serons of Loxa sold, without reserve, at 6d. per lb. for small broken quill, and 2½d. for water-damaged.

COCOA BUTTER.—The Amsterdam auction to be held on December 5 will consist of 90 tons Van Houten's, 10 tons de Jong, 10 tons Mignon, and 16 tons Stollwerck.

COPPER SULPHATE is very firm and in good demand at 22½. per ton spot, and for guaranteed pure 98 to 99 per cent. 24½. 10s., spot and forward, is quoted.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—Business has been done in Morocco at 11s. per cwt.

GALANGAL.—The new German tariff, which comes into force on March 1, imposes a duty of 50m. per 100 kilos. The result is that large purchases are being made in Germany, and in consequence of the large shipments from China prices have advanced in that country.

GALLS.—Sellers of Chinese ask 56s. per cwt., c.i.f., for November-December shipment; 87s. 6d. was wanted for 3 bags Blue Persian in auction.

GAMBIER.—Small spot sales of cubes have been made at from 29s. 6d. to 30s. per cwt.

IODINE.—The position of this article has given rise to a good deal of talk and rumour. Interest has, however, centred in the meeting which took place at Cologne on Tuesday last, when the iodide-makers discussed the position. Several versions are current as to the result of this meeting, but we understand that no actual alteration has been made in the price of iodine. Another version is that the makers, in order not completely to cut off all business, have decided for the present to sell at the old prices and extend the length of the reduction clause to six weeks. The iodine syndicate meets in Glasgow to-morrow (Friday).

LYCOPodium is offered at 2s. 3d. per lb. spot, being easier.

NUX VOMICA is lower, Madras being offered at 6s. 9d. per cwt., c.i.f., London, for large quantities.

OIL, CASSIA, is firmer, with good sales of 70 to 75 per cent. c.a. at 3s. 1d., 75 to 80 per cent. at 3s. 3d., and 80 to 85 per cent. at 3s. 5d. per lb. spot, closing buyers at these figures.

OIL, CASTOR.—Firm. Hull make for prompt to December or January to June is quoted 24½. 12s. 6d. for firsts, and December or January to June 22½. 12s. 6d. per ton for seconds, delivered free ex wharf London.

OIL, CITRONELLA.—Ceylon is easier, at 1s. 7d. per lb. for drums and 1s. 8d. for tins.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—In London prices are easier, agents offering at 82s. per barrel, c.i.f., and from second-hands rather less would be taken. Our Bergen correspondent writes on November 20 that the oil market is still very dull, with only a small business. Finest Lofoten non-congealing cod-liver oil is nominally quoted at 80s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen, and with a firm offer this price could probably be further reduced. The exports from Bergen up to date

amount to 13,074 barrels, against 6,902 barrels at the corresponding date of last year. For 20 barrels of finest new Norwegian (P.D.) 92s. 6d. was wanted in the drug-auction, and for 5 barrels catalogued as "cod-liver oil or whatever it may be" 1s. 6d. per gal. was paid, without reserve.

OIL, LEMONGRASS.—Cochin continues in small supply at from 8d. to 8½d. per oz.

OIL, OLIVE.—Edible qualities of Nice oils are quoted at from 5s. 2d. to 6s. 7d. per gal. of 9 lbs.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—Small sales of Japanese dementholised have been made at 4s. 6d. per lb. spot for Kobayashi, at which price there are sellers; for American H.G.H. 14s. 1½d. to 14s. 3d. spot is quoted, and 10s. 3d. to 10s. 6d. spot for Wayne County. In the drug-auction 1 case of Wayne County oil sold, without reserve, "for account of whom it may concern." at 9s. per lb., no allowance for draft, trett, or discounts. It was said that the case had been rejected, but the analysis proved it to be "very good oil," the following being its characteristics: Total menthol, 58.2 per cent.; esters, 7.9 per cent.; optical rotation, -27°; specific gravity, 0.907; soluble in four volumes of 70-per-cent. alcohol.

OPIMUM.—There is little doing here owing to the fact that manufacturing grades are in small supply on the spot, the bulk of it being soft-shipping for which there is little demand.

SMYRNA, November 10.—The sales this week amount to 272 cases, comprising 270 cases for America and two for the Continent. The price paid by the Americans is equivalent to 8s. 10d. per lb., and the average morphine-content should be 12 per cent. The following are the quotations: Common qualities mixed, old or new, 7s. 8d. to 8s. 2d.; manufacturing material, mixed selected, 8s. 2d. to 8s. 6d.; rich manufacturing Yerlis, as to quality, 8s. 4d. to 9s. 6d. per lb., f.o.b. Every fresh purchase shows the exhausted stocks of rich material (11½ to 12 per cent.) on our market. Prices for these will be maintained, if not advanced later on. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 1,251 cases, against 3,925 cases at the same period last year.

SMYRNA, November 11.—The sales during the week amount to 170 cases choice Karahissar t.q. at the parity of 8s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f., and 2 cases Yerli t.q. at 9s. 2d. The market closes firm for the finer qualities. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 1,251 cases, against 3,925 cases at the same time last year.

SMYRNA, November 17.—The sales amount to 6 cases bought by speculators at from 8s. 2d. to 8s. 6d. per lb. as to quality. Of the 270 cases bought for the Americans last week, 125 were returned on examination by the buyers. The total sales therefore of this and last week are: 145 selected Karahissar for America, 2 rich Yerli for the Continent, and 6 usual run talequale on speculation. Our market continues firm for rich qualities, but for 10 to 11 per cent. stuff there are many sellers, who may be willing to make concessions. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 1,278 cases, against 3,981 at same period last year.

CONSTANTINOPLE, November 18.—Weather is exceedingly mild for this season of the year, and opium plants are in consequence being forced upwards instead of the contrary, as should be the case at this season. This state of things naturally increases risks of damage by frost later on. The week's sales amount to 52 cases "soft" at from 9s. to 9s. 4d., and ten cases "druggists" at 8s. per lb., f.o.b. Market is steady.

POTASH PERMANGANATE.—The scarcity continues, and in second-hands the lowest price is from 45s. to 50s. per cwt., according to holder. The makers, of whom it is said there are now only two in Germany, are greatly behindhand with deliveries, and it is quite probable the article will be scarce throughout the winter.

QUININE is inactive and unaltered. For comparatively new make of good brands of sulphate 9d. per oz. is asked, and in the speculative market there are buyers at 8½d. for contract parcels.

SAFFRON is firm, new crop selling at from 38s. 6d. to 40s. per lb. net for finest to arrive. The quality of the crop is improving, but it is quite anticipated that the quantity gathered will be from one-third to one-half less than that of last year.

SENEGA.—New crop for prompt shipment is quoted 2s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

SHELLAC has been extremely quiet, with small sales on a basis of 180s. to 182s. 6d. per cwt. for fair free TN orange. Fine orange marks are quoted from 192s. 6d. to 200s. Garnet is scarce, A C on the spot having been sold at 197s. 6d., and

G A L in circle 175s. per cwt. Several parcels of Button lac have also changed hands at full prices. Futures have been inactive, and prices are about 3s. to 4s. lower, December delivery closing with business at 178s. to 181s. and March at 180s. to 183s.

SILVER NITRATE has been advanced about 1d. per oz. to 1s. 7½d. per oz. for crystals in quantity.

SODA NITRATE is dearer at 11s. 1½d. per cwt. for refined and 10s. 7½d. for ordinary.

SPERMACEY is 1d. per lb. dearer, at 1s. 2½d. spot for American refined.

SPICES.—At auction *Ginger* was very slow of sale. Selected bold cut Cochin was bought in at 100s., and ordinary small washed Aleppy at 21s. Small and medium native cut wormy sold at 30s. to 30s. 6d., and of 75 barrels Jamaica offered 30 sold at 36s. to 38s. for common. Good Tellicherry pepper was bought in at 6d. per lb., and privately fair Singapore is quoted on the spot at 5½d. and 5½d., c.i.f., for November-December. *White pepper* was bought in at 11d. to 11½d. for fine Singapore, 8d. to 8½d. for fair to good; 20 bags Penang sold at 7½d. for fair, and 10 bags Ceylon at 7½d. for ordinary. Fair Singapore is quoted privately at 8d., and fair Penang 7½d., and for arrival the demand has improved. Fair small *Pimento* was bought in at 2½d. per lb., and a few bags Nyasaland *Chillies* sold at 32s. to 33s. Fine Japan were bought in at 36s., and Mombasa at 27s. to 28s. Of *Cassia Lignea* 180 bales offered and sold without reserve at 40s. to 42s. per cwt., being easier. *Nutmegs* were flat and lower, and *Mace* was quiet. Zanzibar *Cloves* at auction were mostly bought in at 6½d., a few dark selling at 6½d. per lb. The delivery market during the early part of the week was easier, but on Wednesday prices were firmer, January-March selling at 6½d. and March-May 6½d.

SULPHUR.—Prices in London are below the parity of those ruling in Sicily. Roll is quoted on the spot at 6l. and flowers at 6l. 5s. per ton. An advice from Messina, dated November 14, states that refined and flowers of sulphur have been in active demand, and prices have hardened. As regards crude sulphur, "outsiders" have sold a considerable quantity at advancing prices, and their unsold stock is now small. The shipments from all ports in Sicily during October amounted to 24,807 tons, against 26,098 tons; and for the ten months the shipments amount to 387,320 tons, against 414,155 tons last year, a decrease of 26,835 tons. Included in this amount was 57,421 tons for the U.S.A., a decrease of 36,125 tons compared with the corresponding period of 1904. The visible stocks at all shipping ports in Sicily at the end of October were 426,615 tons, against 366,765 tons in 1904, or an increase of 59,850 tons.

TURPENTINE has been very irregular, up to 48s. 6d. being paid early in the week, but on Wednesday 44s. 6d. was touched, and the market closes to-day at that figure.

London Drug-auctions.

Although the sales comprised fifteen catalogues of new and old goods they were concluded about one o'clock, owing to the fact that there were no large quantities of senna or cardamoms offered. Outside a few particular lines the demand was slow. Cape aloes, being scarce, brought fully previous prices, but Socotrine were neglected. Sumatra benzoin tended easier, and there is now more offering. Fine Siam almonds were held at a high figure. Buchu was steady. Calumba realised higher rates. For cardamoms prices were, if anything, a shade easier. Dragon's-blood was neglected, practically no fine quality being offered. Ergot was unaltered. Jamaica honey, being in short supply, advanced. Ipecacuanha, under the influence of larger offerings, declined about 3d. per lb. Jalap sold cheaply. Prices for menthol are still being manipulated. Rhubarb was quiet. Sarsaparilla of the various descriptions was in good demand at dearer rates, especially genuine grey Jamaica. The offerings of Tinnevely senna were quite unimportant. Beeswax generally was exceedingly slow of sale, there being no change in the ease of Jamaica. The next sales, which occur on December 7, will be the last held this year. The following table shows the amount of goods offered and sold, the asterisk denoting private sales:

Offered		Sold		Offered		Sold	
Aloes—				Aniseed.....	60	...	0
Cape	28	...	28	Annatto-seed	8	...	0
Socotrine	20	...	0	Antimony	20	...	*6
Zanzibar	5	...	5	Areca	20	...	0

Offered Sold			Offered Sold		
Balsam—			Myrrh	21	*5
Peru	2	0	Oil—		
Tolu	6	2	aueseid, star ...	5	5
Benzoin—			cinnamon leaf ...	12	0
Palembang	11	5	citronella	50	0
Saigon	4	1	clove	2	0
Siam	8	0	cod-liver	25	5
Sumatra	101	15	eucalyptus	64	0
Buchu	36	3	lemongrass	2	0
Calumba	135	43	lime	2	0
Camphor	26	16	peppermint	6	1
Canella alba	5	0	rose	6	0
Cannabis indica	17	0	sandalwood	1	0
Cardamoms	269	124	wood	28	0
Cassia fistula	15	16	Olibanum	11	6
Chillies (Zan.)	45	0	Onion-seed	9	0
Cinchona	19	8	Orange-peel	13	1
Coca-leaves	13	13	Orris	36	1
Colocynth (Span.)	1	0	Ox tongues (doz.)	80	*4
(pulp)	4	0	Papain	4	0
Copaiba	4	0	Papaw-juice	2	0
Coriander-seed	258	129	Patchouli	52	0
Croton-seed	20	0	Rhatany	20	0
Cubets	26	17	Rhubarb	66	4
Cumin-seed	30	0	Sarsaparilla	34	27
Cuttle-bone	229	18	Sage	19	0
Dill-seed	50	0	Scammonium	8	0
Dragon's-blood	24	1	Senna		
Elemi	28	0	Alexandrian (pods)	12	6
Ergot	38	8	Tinnevely	33	33
Euphorbium	15	0	Soy	70	0
Fennel-seed	30	0	Sticklac	14	0
Galls	3	0	Tamarinds (E. I.)	99	0
Gamboge	8	1	Tonka beans	5	0
Guaiacum	1	1	Turmeric	349	111
Gum arabic	124	10	Vermilion	5	0
Honey—			Wax (bees)—		
Jamaica	5	5	Aden	12	0
New Zealand	20	0	Australia	11	0
Insect-flowers	30	0	East Indian	114	*12
powder	14	0	Jamaica	15	7
Ipecacuanha—			Madagascar	11	2
East Indian	29	4	Mombasa	73	0
Minas (cult.)	14	0	Morocco	12	0
Rio (Matto Grosso)	13	0	Spanish	10	0
Jalap	12	12	Zanzibar	135	0
Kamala	3	0	Wax (Caruaba)	112	0
Kino	2	0	Wax (Ja se)	30	30
Kola	73	10	Zedoar pane	50	0
Menthol	38	30	y		

* Sold privately.

ALOES.—Cape again realised steady prices, 25s. 6d. being paid for good bright hard firsts, 24s. 6d. for good seconds, slightly dullish, 22s. for fair seconds, and from 19s. to 21s. for common softish and drossy. Five cases of Zanzibar in skins sold cheaply at 10s. per cwt., without reserve and "if pay charges," for very low skinny to fair bright hard dry hepatic mixed.

ANNATTO-SEED.—Good bright Madras was offered at 6½d. to 7d. per lb.

ANTIMONY.—The price of Japanese crude is 35l. per ton, and part of that offered in the auction to-day had been sold at that figure. English regulus is dearer at 52l.

ARECA.—Medium to bold wormy Ceylon were held at 27s. 6d. per cwt.

BALSAM TOLU sold at 8d. per lb., subject, for two cases of large tins of partly drossy quality.

BENZOIN.—Easier, owing to arrivals. Good almondy well-packed Sumatra seconds, with slight storax flavour, were bought in at 9l. 10s. per cwt., good fair seconds sold cheaply at 8l. 5s., fair at 7l. 2s. 6d., and middling seconds sold at 5l. 15s., thirds selling without reserve at 5l. per cwt. Subsequently there were private sales of thirds at 90s. Low Palembang (5 cases) sold without reserve at 2s. 6d. per cwt., if pay charges, and a case of dark blocky Saigon garblings changed hands at 4l. per cwt. Some extra fine quality of Siam was offered, and bought in at a nominal figure, the highest bid obtainable being 17l. 15s. for small to bold good well-flavoured almonds in nougat block.

BUCHU-LEAVES were steady. A few sales of fair small round greenish were made at 6d. per lb.

CALUMBA sold at dearer prices, 18 bags of fair bold bright washed yellowish, part stemmy sorts, realising from 24s. to 25s., and 35 bags small to bold washed sorts selling at 18s. 6d.

CAMPHOR.—Six cases of Japanese $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. tablets sold without reserve at 3s. 2d. per lb., and a further 8 cases of Japanese realised also 3s. 2d. per lb. for 1-oz. tablets. Of 10 cases of camphor-powder offered, 2 cases sold at 3s. per lb. for crude damp China of good white colour. Privately the sales include 50 cases Japanese $2\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. slabs for manufacturing, at 3s. 2½d. on the spot, and for $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. tablets 3s. 1d. has been paid. The English refiners have advanced their quotation by 2d. per lb., to 3s. 6d.

CARDAMOMS sold at about steady prices. Ceylon-Mysore bold pale long brought 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.; bold and medium pale, 1s. to 1s. 1d.; bold long dull, 10d.; small and medium pale, 9½d. to 10½d.; very small pale, 8d. to 8½d.; brown and split, 8d. to 8½d.; good ditto, 9d.; seed, 11d. to 11½d. Good Bombay seed was held at 1s. 1d. A pile of 45 cases Indian from Tuticorin sold at 11d. for good medium heavy brownish, and 9d. for small.

CASSIA FISTULA.—Fair bold to lean fresh Dominican pod sold at 20s. 6d. per cwt.

COCA-LEAVES.—Ceylon sold at steady prices, 13 cases finding buyers at 1s. 3d. for fair green and 1s. 2d. for not quite so green.

COPAIBA.—For clear to cloudy genuine Maranhão 1s. 6d. per lb. was wanted.

CORIANDER.—About 130 bags East Indian *via* Colombo sold without reserve at from 3s. to 10s. per cwt., according to damage.

CROTON-SEED.—Fair mixed were held at 35s. per cwt.

CUBEES maintained their price, a parcel of 17 bags of clean sifted greyish from Bombay selling at from 44s. to 45s. per cwt., without reserve.

CUTTLE-BONE.—Good bold pale bone from Bombay was limited at 6½d. per lb. For 10 bales of pickings 1½d. was paid. Eight bags sold without reserve at 1½d. per lb.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD sold at an advance, 9l. 15s. per cwt. without reserve being paid for fair bright re-boiled lump, part mixed with inferior. This was the only sale.

ERGOT.—Eight bags of fair small Russian sold, without reserve, at 1s. 8d. per lb., net, no allowances. Another lot was held for 1s. 10d., and 4 bags Spanish at 2s. 3d.

GAMBOGE partly sold at 17l. per cwt. for fine Siam pipe, slightly blocky.

GUAIACUM.—A case of fair lump realised 8½d. per lb., subject.

GUM ARABIC.—Fine pale soft Soudan sorts sold at 40s. per cwt. for 12 bales. Australian continues scarce with small sales at 30s. per cwt. for fair.

HONEY.—Twenty cases of fine white set New Zealand were limited at 37s. 6d., a bid of 33s. being refused. Jamaica was considerably dearer owing to scarcity. Fair bright pale to brown liquid sold at 25s. per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—Slow of sale and easier. East Indian, of which 27 bales offered, sold to the extent of four bales at 7s. per lb. for fair cultivated native picked, and privately sales were afterwards made at this figure. For good Minas 7s. was wanted, and Rio was held at from 7s. 3d. to 7s. 9d., as to quality.

JALAP.—Lower in auction. Twelve bags sold at from 3½d. to 4d. per lb. net, without reserve, no analysis being given. Privately there has been some inquiry on United States account and the market for root yielding 10 to 12 per cent. resin is firm.

KOLA was plentifully offered, the sales including fair bright Jamaica at 3d., and mouldy at 2½d. per lb. A parcel of 63 bags of West Indian, *via* Halifax, was bought in at 3½d.

MENTHOL.—In auction 20 cases of Kobayashi sold without reserve at from 8s. 5d. to 8s. 6d. per lb., two cases only changing hands at the lower figure, the whole being bought by one broker. A further parcel of eight cases of Kobayashi, also without reserve, sold at from 8s. 5d. to 8s. 6d. to the same buyer. Two cases of Suzuki, without reserve, sold at 8s. 4d. per lb. for fine bold crystals, and for eight cases of Kobayashi in another catalogue 9s. per lb. was wanted.

Privately small sales of Kobayashi have been made on the spot at 8s. 6d. to 8s., and subsequently 8s. 1½d. was paid, but for shipment sellers are much firmer, previous low offers having been withdrawn.

OIL, STAR-ANISEED.—Five cases Chinese, with analysis, sold, without reserve, at from 5s. 2d. to 5s. 3d. per lb. Privately, the market is firm with fair sales at from 5s. 3d. to 5s. 4d. spot, the latter being for "Red Ship" brand. The price in China is several pence above the parity here. A further advance on the spot is quite expected.

OLIBANUM.—Six cases of ordinary siftings sold, without reserve, at 16s. per cwt.

ORANGE-PEEL.—A small sale of dark overheated Tripoli strip was made at 3½d. per lb.

RHUBARB.—Quiet. Two cases of Canton druggists' trimming root, part small and part stalky, with three-quarters fair pinky fracture, sold at 1s. 3d. per lb. For three cases of medium flat Shensi, slightly wormy, with three-quarters fair pinky fracture, 1s. 5d. was paid, without reserve. For small to medium flat High-dried of pale coat and three-quarters pale pinky fracture 1s. 2d. was wanted, and small sales have been made privately at this price. Horny round High-dried with good coat and fracture was held at 9½d. per lb.

SARSAPARILLA.—Grey Jamaica was quite 2d. per lb. dearer, twelve bales selling at from 1s. 5d. to 1s. 7d. for ordinary coarse dark to good fibrous. Twelve bales of coarse and chumpy Guayaquil, which is seldom seen now, sold well at from 1s. to 1s. 1d. per lb. Two bales of good red native Jamaica, well packed in neat hanks, were held firmly at 1s. 1d., 1s. being refused. Five bales of native red Jamaica sold at from 10d. to 11½d. per lb., and sea-damaged at 9d. Privately Lima-Jamaica is quoted 1s. 3d. per lb.

SENNA.—The offerings to-day were unimportant. A few bales small and medium greenish Tinnevely sold at 2½d., small ordinary partly sea-damaged 1d. to 1½d., and common speckly badly sea-damaged ½d. to ¾d. per lb. Pods sold at 1½d. Four bales of darkish Alexandrian pods sold at 10d. per lb.

TURMERIC sold without reserve at 12s. 6d. per cwt. for common shrivelled Madras bulby finger. Thirty bags of slightly wormy Madras finger brought 16s. per cwt. subject. Fair sales of Bengal finger have been made privately at 13s. spot, and for Cochin split bulbs from 7s. 6d. to 8s. per cwt. is quoted.

WAX, BEES'.—Quiet but steady. Jamaica partly sold at 7l. 17s. 6d. per cwt, subject, for fair red and brown mixed, and for two other lots of good 8l. was wanted. An odd case realised 7l. 10s. Twelve cases bleached Calcutta had been sold privately, and a small sale of fair pale to dark Madagascar was made at 6l. 12s. 6d. For good even brown Zanzibar block 6l. 15s. was wanted, and 7l. for Mombasa.

WAX, CARNAUBA, was held for long prices, but no business was done.

WAX, JAPANESE, sold cheaply without reserve at from 53s. to 54s. per cwt. for fair pale slabs.

Iodine-compounds in France.

From further information we have received from Paris, we understand that it was the Society of French Pharmacists for the Manufacture of Iodine who first reduced the price of iodine and compounds, and that the step was taken in order to meet Japanese competition. Judging from circulars which have been sent out by leading Paris brokers in this article, the fall in crude iodine is not so great as that of potassium iodide. The former is now quoted in France at 25f. per kilo. (63½d. per oz.) in lots of not less than 50 kilos., 1f. more being asked for kilo. lots, and potassium iodide is quoted 23f. per kilo. (8s. 4d. per lb.) for not less than 50 kilos., the price by the kilo being 24.50f. Iodoform is now 33.75f. per kilo. (12s. 3d. per lb.) for 12½ kilo. lots, and resublimed iodine is 27.50f. per kilo. (10s. per lb.) for 12½ kilo. lots. It is distinctly understood, however, that the brokers will only deal with buyers who will sign an agreement to sell for French consumption only, and that they are quite averse to allowing a speculator to participate. It appears to be an open question, however, as to whether cheap parcels of potassium iodide may be had in France, but it is exceedingly doubtful if any will find its way here.

SITUATION required in good Wholesale house; aged 22; height 6 ft.; good address; 7 years' all-round Retail experience; excellent references. "Salol" (271/2), Office of this Paper.

APPOINTMENT wanted, with good House, Office, or Laboratory; good Organiser and Manager; varied experience; qualified; young; energetic. "Permanency" (275/300), Office of this Paper.

YOUNG man (21) desires position in good London Wholesale house; 6 years' good experience in all Specialities; well accustomed to Laboratory duties; good references. 273/36, Office of this Paper.

SMART qualified Chemist, with thorough knowledge of the trade and good Salesman, is open to represent good Speciality or General house; salary or commission. Address, "Commerce" (50/51), Office of this Paper.

TRAVELLER.—Experienced, reliable, successful gentleman; extended knowledge all branches; well-proved methods; largely increased verifiable returns; connection; undeniable references. "Abil" (278/15), Office of this Paper.

SCOTCH Chemist, qualified, London experience, ambitious and energetic, wishes post in Wholesale; previous Edinburgh experience; as Traveller in Scotland preferred; connection; highest credentials. "B." (275/36), Office of this Paper.

WHOLESALE.—Post as Traveller, Representative, or in Literary or Export Department required by gentleman, with 12 years' experience (English and Continental) in Pharmacy and Allied Trades; excellent English, French, Swiss, and German references; able to speak fluently all these languages, also Italian; good salesman; at present representing large firm of Manufacturing Chemists. 276/13, Office of this Paper.

MISCELLANEOUS.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CHEMISTS about opening new Premises.—We have positively the largest and finest Stock of Second-hand Fittings for sale at Unheard-of Prices; drawings and full particulars on application; inspection invited; shops fitted completely. Budduck & Co., Shop-fitters, 262 Old Street, London.

PATENTS and Sundries; free boxes; carriage allowed; prices and terms on application to Barclay & Sons (Limited), 95 Farringdon Street, London.

Practical Notes and Formulae.

* EMULGENE

is grey-coloured jelly of acid reaction, insipid taste, and an odour recalling that of alcohol. It is sold as a substitute for gum acacia for the rapid emulsification of oils and resins; 20 parts of emulgene is sufficient to emulsify 100 parts of oil. Aufrecht ("Pharm. Zeitung") has examined the compound and devised the following formula:

Tragacanth	...	...	10 parts
Gum acacia	...	...	5 parts
Gluten	...	...	5 parts
Alcohol	...	...	10 parts
Glycerin	...	...	20 parts
Water	...	...	50 parts

JACKSON'S MOUTH-WASH.

Orange-peel, fresh	...	50 parts
Lemon-peel, fresh	...	50 parts
Angelica-root	...	50 parts
Guaiacum wood	...	150 parts
Tolu balsam	...	60 parts
Benzoin	...	60 parts
Peru balsam	...	20 parts
Myrrh	...	15 parts
Alcohol (90-per-cent.)	...	2,500 parts

Macerate for a week, distil off the spirit, and add to it

Spirit of horseradish	...	250 parts
Spirit of peppermint	...	250 parts

—Pharm. Zeitung.

TO REMOVE THE SMELL OF IODOFORM (CREOSOTE OR GUAIACOL).

A FRENCH CONTEMPORARY recommends the following means. (1) From the hands: Wash with solution of linseed-meal; (2) from objects: wash with tar-water in which a little winter-green oil is placed; (3) from rooms (creosote), roast coffee. Creosote pills coated with ground coffee lose their disagreeable odour.

MACADAM & TUCKNISS, Sharedealers, 30 Tranquil Vale, Blackheath, London, S.E. Telephone 81 Lee Green.

SHARES FOR SALE (free of commission, subject).—200 Lewis & Burrows ordinary, 5s. c.d.; 200 Bambragh (Ltd.) (Chemists) £1 fully paid 6 per cent. preference, 20s. 3d., *dividend due March*; 100 Marmite, 21s.; 8 Camwal preference, 13s. 10d.; 100 Imperial Accident Life Stock Insurance £2 shares (10s. paid), 13s. 3d.; 100 Peek Frean preference, 21s. 7½d.; 100 Mellins 6 per cent. (English) preference, 21s. 6d.

WANTED (subject)—40 Idris "A" preference, 23s. 1½d.; 100 Camwal ordinary, 5s. 9d., 50 preference, 13s.

List of shares for sale and wanted sent free on application. Bankers, London and County. Established 1898.

McQUEEN'S System of Accounts for Chemists; requires no knowledge of bookkeeping; three books in one—Cash Book, Private Ledger, and Wholesale Ledger. A Chemist writes: "Have found it all you claim; it only wants feeding and it works itself"; price 7s. 6d. Particulars, post free, from McQueen & Sons, Devana Road, Leicester.

NOVEL ADVERTISING IDEA, especially suitable for booming trade at Christmas; full particulars for 5s.; easily worked and inexpensive; if not satisfied money willingly returned. Furness, Cash Chemists, Accrington.

WINDOW-DRESSING for Christmas, by an expert window-dresser, for years with the Erasmic Company, &c.; windows smartly and effectively dressed at moderate charges; highest testimonials; North London preferred; few dates only open; please state size of window. Walter A. Copping, 26 Lurzer Road, Hornsey, N.

A MANUFACTURER'S bankrupt stock of real ivory tooth combs, 2½" by 1½", all perfect, 2s. 6d. per doz., 3 doz. 6s., 6 doz. 11s., 20s. per gross; usual price 8s. per doz.; sample doz. sent on receipt of P.O. 2s. 6d.; the lot must be sold. J. Ginsberg, Chemists' Sundryman, 105 Stoke Newington Road, London, N.

SHOP-FITTINGS.—12 ft. mahogany and plate-glass serving-counter, £9 10s.; 12 ft. high-class drug-fitting, solid mahogany-fronted drawers, bevelled glass labels and knobs, lockers, cornice shelving and pilasters, £12 10s.; 6 ft. wall show-case, solid mahogany pilasters, cornice, and adjustable shelves, £9 10s.; counter-drawers, with label spaces and paper drawers, 4 ft. long, 50s.; large quantities of dispensing-screens, perfumery-cases, centre cases, &c.; lowest prices.

PHILIP JOSEPHS & SON, 93 Old Street, London, E.C.

PRESERVING LIME-JUICE.

The "Journal of the Jamaica Agricultural Society" gives the following as the methods adopted for the preservation of lime or lemon juice: The juice as it is squeezed out from the fruit is allowed to rest for twenty-four hours until a sediment collects at the bottom of the vessel. Then the clear liquid is decanted and reduced by heat to one-third of its volume—i.e., 3 quarts of juice would be reduced to 1 quart. The heating process should not be done by direct fire, but by standing the vessel containing juice into a copper or some large vessel over the fire. On a large scale a water-bath or steam circulating in a jacket boiler could be used. In any case, the vessel in which the juice is heated should be enamelled. The juice may be sweetened by adding 4 to 5 lbs. of sugar for every gallon of juice before it is reduced by heat. It is bottled when cool, but before bottling it may require straining or filtering. To prevent deterioration by mould the bottles, which are filled to an inch from the cork (which is tied down), are placed standing in a flat-bottomed boiler. Water is placed in the boiler up to an inch from the neck of the bottles, and then heated by direct fire up to 170° F., and kept at that temperature for about twenty-five minutes. Then they are removed and laid on one side, never standing. To prevent heating of the bottles it would be well to have a false perforated bottom of wooden battens placed in the boilers. The method of preserving lemon-juice, as used in the navies, is to add 10 per cent. of brandy—that is, 1 gal. of brandy to 9 gals. of juice—after it has been treated.

FIXING-BATH FOR GASLIGHT-PAPERS.

"PHOTOGRAPHIC SCRAPS" gives the following acid fixing-bath, which answers admirably with Ilford gaslight-papers and postcards:

Sodium hyposulphite	...	5iiij.
Boric acid	...	5ss.
Water to	...	5xxx.

The addition of the boric acid immediately arrests development. It also keeps the fixing-bath clean, and so prevents stains in the prints.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Coomber, F., Fisher, W. H., and Palin, E. W., Fakenham, Norfolk, general medical practitioners; so far as regards F. Coomber.

Mulloy, W. D. G., and Skae, H. T., Malden Road, Kentish Town, N.W., general medical practitioners.

Robertson & Campbell (Fred. Robertson and James Haig Campbell), 128 Wellington Street, Glasgow, analytical and consulting chemists. Debts by F. Robertson, who continues.

Thistle Chemical Company (Edward Samuel Paine and Maitland Francis Austen Paine), Easterhouse. Debts by E. S. Paine, who continues.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDERS.

Clarkson, T., Blackburn, botanic brewer.

Coomber, Francis, St. Andrew's Mansions, West Kensington, W., and Fakenham, Norfolk, physician and surgeon.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Breeze, John Albert, Howdon-on-Tyne and Peterborough, bottled-ale and mineral-water manufacturer.

Keys, John Henry, and Keys, Charles Ernest (trading as J. H. Keys & Son), Colne, Lancashire, mineral-water manufacturers.

Knight, Harold, Tredegar, Monmouthshire, mineral-water manufacturer.

College Notes.

METROPOLITAN COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—A series of evening lectures is being arranged at this college to which past and present students are invited. The first will be delivered on Wednesday evening, December 6, at eight o'clock, by Mr. W. Lamond Howie, F.R.S.E., F.C.S., on the Scottish Alps. It will be a lantern-lecture, Mr. Howie's remarkable series of photographs being used.

LONDON COLLEGE FOOTBALL CLUB v. LLOYDS BANK FOOTBALL CLUB 1st XI.—Played at Shepherd's Bush on November 18, and resulted in a win for the Chemists by four goals to nil. From the outset the Londoners were the smarter on the ball, and A. Evans, one of the London forwards, was successful in scoring two goals in almost as many minutes. The Bankers strove hard to reply, but were unable to do more than force a corner, which, however, proved unavailing. Another goal for London followed, and during the second half A. Evans managed to score his third goal.

AN INTER-PHARMACY FOOTBALL LEAGUE match between teams representing the "Square" and "Muter's" was played at Old Oak Farm, Shepherd's Bush, on November 18. "Square" won the toss, and kicked off with the wind in their favour. Both sides opened strongly, but the "Square" forwards, by good combination, soon showed themselves to great advantage. After twenty minutes' play, Watson headed through from a well-placed corner kick. Towards the interval "Muter's" forced a corner, but failed to take advantage, and Schofield enabled Adams to score for the "Square." After the interval even play occurred, but eventually "Muter's" scored a good goal. Encouraged, "Muter's" continued to press, but were unable again to penetrate the "Square's" defence. Towards the close White added a third goal for the "Square," who thus won by three goals to one.

WHERE TO STUDY.

The following educational institutions are advertising in this issue:

South London School of Pharmacy, 325 Kennington Road, S.E.

Westminster College of Chemistry, Trinity Square, Borough, S.E.

Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, 160 and 162 Kennington Park Road, S.E.

London College of Chemistry, 323 Clapham Road, S.W.

Imperial College of Pharmacy, 49 and 51 Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, E.C.

Liverpool School of Pharmacy, 6 Sandon Terrace, Upper Duke Street, Liverpool.

West of Scotland School of Pharmacy, 157 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

THE ANNUAL DANCE of the past and present students of the West of Scotland College of Pharmacy will be held on December 6. Particulars from Mr. David M. Nicol, jun., Apothecaries' Hall, Tollcross, Glasgow, or at the College.

Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by the Editor on Wednesday of each week.

Saturday, November 25.

Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain, 66 Russell Square, W.C., 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Exhibition of photographs by the members of the Postal Camera Club.

Inter-Pharmacy Football League. Match: Westminster v. London College.

Tuesday, November 28.

Bradford Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, Darley Street, at 9 p.m. Mr. Geo. Penty will read a paper on "Poisons."

Wednesday, November 29.

Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association, Park Hotel, at 3 p.m. Annual meeting and election of officers. Discussion on "The Direct Representation of Pharmacy in Parliament," opened by Mr. H. Wippell Gadd Hon. Secretary of the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations. **Chemists' Assistants' Association**, Dorset Hall, Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W., at 7.30 p.m. First cinderella dance of the season. Tickets (2s. 6d. each) from Mr. C. W. Martin, 98 Camberwell New Road, S.E., or Mr. A. H. Solomon, 75 Holland Road, W.

Edinburgh Chemists' Trade Association, 36 York Place, at 9 p.m. Opening address by the Chairman, Mr. J. A. Forret, and discussion on "The Direct Representation of Pharmacy in Parliament."

Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse Chemists' Association, Swiss Café, Union Street, Plymouth, at 6 p.m. Annual dinner. Tickets (6s. 6d. each) may be had from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. A. Spear, 68 Old Town Street, Plymouth.

Public Dispensers' Association, St. Bride Institute, Ludgate Circus, E.C., at 8 p.m. Discussion on "The Position, Prospects, and Possibilities of Qualified Chemists in the Public Service." Mr. R. A. Robinson, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, will be present, and lady pharmacists are especially invited.

School of Pharmacy Football and Athletic Club, York Room, Frascati's Restaurant, Oxford Street, W., at 8 p.m. Annual smoking-concert. Mr. R. A. Robinson, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, in the chair.

Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 p.m. Sir W. H. Preece on "The British Association in South Africa."

Thursday, November 30.

Barnsley Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, at 7 p.m. Paper by the President (Mr. E. Nash) on "The Inefficiency of Private Protection Schemes."

Cheltenham Chemists' Association, Constitutional Club Rooms, Colonnade, at 9 p.m. Discussion on "Parliamentary Representation" and "Combined Buying."

Lincoln Chemists' Association, Coffee Palace. Supper at 8 p.m.; annual meeting at 9 p.m.

Friday, December 1.

Blackpool and Fylde Chemists' Association, Palatine Hotel, Blackpool, at 9 p.m. Discussion on the Shop-hours Act. Arrangements for Christmas closing will be made.

Glasgow School of Pharmacy, Alexandra Hotel, Bath Street, at 8.15 p.m. Annual dinner, Mr. J. P. Gilmour in the chair. The Kinninmont Gold Medal will be presented during the evening.

Saturday, December 2.

Inter-Pharmacy Football League. Match: Muter's v. Westminster College.

THE date of the whist-drive to be held in connection with the Leeds Chemists' Association has been altered to December 7. Tickets (1s. 6d. each) may be had from Mr. W. T. Castlclow, Hon. Secretary, 7 Queen Victoria Street, Leeds.

A BOVRIL RECEPTION.—On Thursday afternoon, November 23, a large gathering of medical men (numbering over one thousand) visited the fine premises of Bovril, Ltd., and made a tour of the factory. The visitors were received by Viscount Duncannon (Chairman of the company), Mr. George Lawson Johnston, Mr. Andrew Walker (managing director), and other directors. Small parties were personally conducted from department to department, and the various processes in the preparation of bovril and virol explained in detail. The finely fitted laboratories, and the cleanliness and expedition displayed in the manufacturing and bottling processes, were particularly commented upon by the medicos, who seemed to enjoy their "afternoon out." A profusion of ingenious advertising novelties was exhibited in various parts of the building. One floor was devoted to the preparation of "Kudos" chocolate and bovril chocolate.

Drug-stores Association.

WE have received a report of the annual meeting of the Patent-medicine Vendors and Drug-stores Association, which was held at the Mitre Hotel, Leeds, but the report does not say when, and as it comes to us while this issue is going through the press, we indicate generally the nature of the business transacted. Mr. W. Huntrods presided over a large attendance of delegates, whom he congratulated on the amount of work which had been accomplished during the year.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT showed increased membership and decreased expenditure. It was carried, as was also a proposal that the Secretary (Mr. W. Leggett, Liverpool) should be paid a salary.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.—Mr. Huntrods began by saying that it is the privilege of his colleagues and himself to criticise their interesting opponents once a year, saying that the criticism would not be necessary if the trade journals gave them the same privileges as are accorded to registered chemists. He mentioned as one grievance that the reports of this Association's meetings are not fully set out, and that the most essential facts are eliminated. He also complained that letters are not inserted or are curtailed.

"In fact, we are ostracised," added Mr. Huntrods, as he proceeded to select THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for particular disapprobation. In this connection he gave two examples of what he considered to be unfair or incorrect statements, and proceeded to express regret that many unregistered chemists do not get a trade journal and urged them to subscribe for one, saying that "of the three journals THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is undoubtedly the best," but he warned his fellow-members that, whichever journal they subscribe to, they should not give too much credence to the editorials. Mr. Huntrods next touched lightly and amusingly on "letters to the Editor," selecting Mr. James Reid for distinction. Referring amidst laughter to the recent additions to the Poisons Schedule Mr. Huntrods said chemists all over the country were jubilant about salt of lemon and headache-powders going to be added, and depicted their chagrin when they were not, adding that this Association has friends both inside and outside the Privy Council, but how the Association defeated the Pharmaceutical Society he would not tell. Mr. Huntrods next complained that the C. & D. had not inserted a report of a hastily-formed meeting of the Association held on July 26,* and proceeded to tell about the "hearty cheer of defiance from 200 voices which rent the air at Brighton" when the Privy Council's conduct was mentioned at the Pharmaceutical Society's meeting there, and he had a lot more to say about the Society, as well as the qualifying examination. He also mentioned that he has been gathering evidence as to the merciless manner in which the Pharmaceutical Society administers the Pharmacy Act against unqualified persons, which will in due course be presented to the proper authorities. Passing over the Pharmacy Bill with the remark that no Government will pass it, Mr. Huntrods briefly mentioned Mr. Glyn-Jones and the P.A.T.A., and declared that 50 per cent. of chemists' shops are carried on illegally, and the Association has collected evidence to that effect. The Pharmaceutical Society has, he added, been entrusted with the carrying out of a public Act which they have not, and dare not, carry out. This statement was backed up by examples from both sides. Finally he touched on the P.A.T.A. and co-operative societies, and on the comical aspects of chemists' associations.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—The President, general and assistant secretaries, auditors, and committee were re-elected. Votes of thanks brought a most successful meeting to a close.

* "A special meeting of the above Association was held [where and when not stated], at which, amidst acclamation, a resolution was passed conveying thanks to the officers of the Association for bringing to so successful an issue the prevention of scheduling unnecessary poisons. Anthony Beeby, Ass. Sec." This is what Mr. Huntrods refers to as a report. It came to us with no request for insertion, and we did not dream that the Association desired all the world to know that they had thanked themselves for a piece of work in which others were as keenly engaged—e.g., the Association of Wholesale Druggists and Manufacturers of Medicinal Preparations.—EDITOR.

Sheffield Dines.

THE annual dinner of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society was held at the Royal Victoria Hotel, Sheffield, on November 16, Councillor A. Russell Fox, F.L.S. (President), in the chair, supported by Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, F.C.S., Messrs. H. Antcliffe and Percy Carr (Vice-Presidents), Mr. G. Squire (Treasurer), Mr. H. G. Williams (Hon. Secretary), Messrs. J. Austen, R. D. Douglas, F. W. Whitworth, F. A. Upsher-Smith, J. Evans, F.I.C., F.C.S., J. T. Appleton, G. B. Owen, R. D. Dixon, G. J. R. Parkes (Hearon, Squire & Francis), C. S. Richards, J. T. Alcock, F. Medley, Brinson (Chesterfield), G. M. Tomlinson, Elliott (Kilnhurst), and Crossley Holland (Burdoughs Wellcome & Co.). Among the guests were Mr. J. Abson, F.R.C.V.S. (President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons), Mr. G. E. Scott-Smith, F.I.C., F.C.S. (city analyst), Dr. Godfrey Carter (President of the Sheffield Microscopical Society), Dr. J. Sorby, Mr. Francis J. Maw (Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd.), Mr. Arthur Neal (solicitor to the Society), and Messrs. T. Morrison, Cocking, Adams, and Whitehurst.



Mr. Fox.

After the loyal toasts had been honoured, the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain" was submitted by Mr. Abson, who expressed his pleasure in being present in his official capacity of President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. Referring to the Pharmacy Bill, Mr. Abson wished chemists success in the near future, and said that he could sympathise with them in this question of the competition of the limited-liability companies, because in his profession they suffer from similar competition, and have similar and other grievances. Mr. Newsholme, in responding, said he was a disappointed man because more chemists did not join the Society. This state of affairs was most unfortunate for the Society, because when they went to Parliament or to the Privy Council they were told that they had not the great body of chemists behind them. Mr. Newsholme went on to recapitulate the facts about the company question. The Council were not satisfied that there should be a simple clause to say that a company should be a person, but advocated other clauses which should deal with other grievances. Up to the present they had failed, but in this they were not unlike other people who had Bills before the House of Commons. There are, however, to-day many more members of Parliament who are agreed that the Bill is a proper one.

Mr. Arthur Neal proposed the toast of "The Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society," and, referring to the question of unauthorised practitioners, said that if they would study the statistics of deaths ensuing after effective treatment by qualified practitioners with those caused by unqualified men, they would understand why Parliament did not pass their Bill. Councillor Fox, replying, referred to some of the members he had known since he attended his first session of the Society twenty-eight years ago, and who made their mark in pharmacy in the city. After appealing for increased interest in the Society, Mr. Fox spoke of his work as a member of the Health Committee of the City Council, when he had never forgotten that, in addition to the ward for which he was returned, he represented pharmacy on the Council.

The toast of "Kindred Associations" was submitted by Mr. George Squire, and in reply Dr. Godfrey Carter maintained that pharmacy belonged to the chemists and therapeutics to the doctors, and personally he had never dispensed medicines and never intended to do so. (Applause.) He was sometimes asked by patients why he did not do so, and he answered that they would be considering their best interests by going to a chemist. Other toasts followed. During the evening musical selections were given by the Æolian Glee-singers, assisted by Mr. James Lodge, and a number of amusing imitations were contributed by Mr. Crossley Holland.

Exchange Column--Bargains.

BUYERS AND SELLERS, PLEASE NOTE.

We again call the attention of those who use this column for the sale or purchase of goods to the desirability of using our Deposit System. Some forward goods before they receive money for them, and others forward money to advertisers before they have even seen the goods. Disappointment in such circumstances is bound to happen now and then, and it is to prevent this, as well as to check fraud, that our Deposit System was instituted.

All that is necessary when a bargain is struck, or is likely to be, is for the buyer to send us a cheque, or Post Office Order, for the price which he has agreed to pay for the goods. A commission of 6d. is charged by us on any transaction of £3 or less, and 1s. if above that amount. The Commission is payable by the purchaser, and should be included in the money sent to us.

When we hear from the buyer that the goods are satisfactory, and not till then, we hand over the money to the seller. The interests of the latter are secured by the fact that he does not despatch the goods to the buyer until he hears from us that we have received the money.

This System was instituted solely for the protection of our readers, and it has so often been of real service that it should be more generally used. All cheques and postal orders should be made payable to "Edward Halse," and crossed "Martin's Bank, Ltd."

FOR DISPOSAL.

APPARATUS.

'Gnom' sterilisers, 3 No. 2, 5 No. 3, 2 No. 4, 1 No. 5, 1 No. 6, 2 No. 7, 1 No. 8; at maker's prices, subject to 25 p.c. and 10 p.c. Address, P.O. Box 34, York.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

'Principles and Practice of Medicine,' Hughes Bennett, 3rd edition, 2s. 6d.; 'Principles and Practice Medical Jurisprudence,' Taylor, 2s. 6d.; 'Diseases Infancy and Childhood,' Dr. Tanner, 2s. 6d.; Dr. Paris's 'Pharmacologia,' 9th edition, 2s. 6d.; Garrod's 'Materia Medica,' 7th edition; 'Manual Anatomy,' Knox, 2s.; 'Aural Catarrh and Curable Deafness,' Dr. Allen, 2s.; 'Surgical Anatomy,' Galton, 2s.; send P.O., WHITE, 157 Commercial Road, E.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Eighteen tubes gold chloride, 15 grs. (Johnson's), 27s. lot, post. J. W. RICHARDSON, Lenton, Nottingham.

OPTICAL AND PHOTOGRAPHIC.

Biunial lecture-lantern, 2 20-ft. cylinders, with gauges, £3. HIGGINS, Stevenage.

Sixty microscope-slides, 2s. doz., 9s. lot; exchange, approval. LINTIN, 170 Freedom Road, Sheffield.

Barometer (without Marine arm), Maws' list figure 768; new last June; perfect order; accept 35s. EASTON, Chemist, Winslow, Bucks.

Expensive microscope and accessories, by Powell & Lealand, in excellent condition; cost over £120; accept £20 cash, or exchange part cash and jewellery. 12 Hereford Road, Acton, W.

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES.

One gross Keene's corn cure, 4s. 6d. per doz.; carriage paid on one or more doz. lots. NORMAN, Chemist, Weston-super-Mare.

Offers wanted.—8 razorine 6d.; 7 luminous paint 2s.; 3 doz. No. 5 Atlas toilet-rolls; 18 Walker's liquid coffee 8 oz. MATTHEWS, Royston, Herts.

Variety of patents, including Clarke's blood-mixture, 11s.; Pepper's quinine, 4s. 6d.; Izal; Coutt's acid; offers? Send for full list, NOBLE, Chemist, Peterborough.

Best offer.—4 pancreatic emulsion (S. & M.), 2s. 6d.; 3 injection bron., 12 antixema, 2 laxol, 2 phospholactine, 3 Edgar's croup lotion, 1 Vibrona malt, 2 bromo seltzer, 2 Bateman's drops, 1 Bow's liniment. MEYLER, Fishguard.

SHARES.

Shares for Sale.—See p. 87.

For sale.—Two £50 first mortgage debentures Camwal, Ltd., paying 4½ per cent. per annum; price £95 or close offer. Apply, "H. C." (274/36), Office of this Paper.

SHOP FITTINGS.

O'Brien self-closing check till, cost 8½ guineas, good as new; what offers? THOMPSON, Chemist, Ealing.

Two 24-in. specie-jars, Royal arms, gilt glass tops, mahogany stands; splendid condition; cost £5 each; will take £3 each. G. R. FOULSTON, Burnham, Bucks.

Bargains (Secondhand).—Mahogany pianoforte-front wall-case, about 11 ft. long, £25; mahogany drawers and shelving fixture, about 13 ft., £15; 2 upright square counter-cases, 22 in. x 3 ft. high (3 movable plate glass shelves), £8 10s.; magnificent exhibition show-case (movable glass shelves), 6 ft. x 2 ft. x 7 ft. high, £25; mahogany dispensing-screen (sine counter), 2 upright cases, bevelled mirror centre, £6; show-stand, 3 glass shelves, 2 brass uprights, 50s. Stat's wants (stamped envelope), PERCIVAL, 171 High Street, Walthamstow.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Three oil-tanks (about 80 gallons), with taps; in good condition; what offers? WOOD, Chemist, Arnold.

Tablet-machine (Holroyd's); 10 sets punches and dies; can be seen working. Apply, by letter, to 138/12, Office of this Paper.

Electro-magnetic battery, single magnet, very powerful, perfect, almost new; 20s. or offer. SHAW, 207 Dewsbury Road, Leeds.

Surplus stock.—13 trusses, assorted sizes, new; 12 double chest-protectors, red, 2 to 5; 15 sponge-bags, various patterns; what offers? 136/57, Office of this Paper.

Specie-jar (28 in.), as Maw 1459, good condition, and 3 smaller; also 5 carboys, Maw 1449 and 1450; quantity Leath & Ross pills and tinctures; what offers? Would exchange patents. "E.", 57 Dieppe Street, West Kensington.

Ten doz. 7½d. Keene's one night corn, at 4s. 6d. doz.; 1 doz. 2s. 3d. Stuart's dyspepsia, 18s.; 2½ doz. 7½d. laxative powder (Sanger), at 4s. doz.; 1 doz. 6d. sparklet soda tablets, 3s.; 3 doz. 2d. "Wallsgrove" developer, 3s.; 1 doz. toner and fixer, 2s.; No. 1 Scout camera, complete, 3s.; 4 2s. 9d., 2 1s. 6d. Holloway's quinquina, 7s.; Gazeaux and Tannier's "Obstetries" (as new), cost 35s., accept £1; 3 doz. pairs eyeglasses, in good condition, bargain, 15s.; carriage paid. B. O. HEATH, Nechells, Birmingham.

WANTED.

Drying apparatus for saline, &c. R. W. & Co., Reform Works, Dudley.

Electro-Medical apparatus. State make, price, "CHEMIST," 64 Charles Street, Hull.

Fittings, bottles, and accessories. BALCHIN, 109 High Road, Kilburn, N.W.

Secondhand ½-plate camera. Full particulars, lowest price, MITCHELL, Chemist, Harrogate.

"Herbal," by Beach. Price and particulars to Badham, 45 Ryland Street, Birmingham.

Shop-rounds, recess-labels or otherwise; gross or more. EDWARDS, 87 Pontcanna Street, Cardiff.

Good secondhand Morstadt cachet machine for 5 and 10 gr. cachets. HICKMAN & METCALF, Newbury.

Cheap dental chair and lathe. State lowest price and particulars, "DENT," 3 Hinckley Road, Leicester.

Model or advertising novelty for window; also domestic water-still. HOLMES, 327 Brighton Road, Oroydon.

Minor books, Chemists' books, modern editions; cash value on receipt. GOWER, Bookseller, Waterloo, Liverpool.

Chemical and essences traveller's samples bag or case, with bottles complete, cheap. 272/10, Office of this Paper.

Pill-machine: 2 small carboys; "B. P."; "Squire," "Martindale," "Pharmaceutical Formulas"; ointment-jars. 277/21, Office of this Paper.

12-ft. mahogany wall show-case; 12-ft. run drug-drawers and bottle-shelving; 7-ft. counter and dispensing-screen. HARRISON, Pharmacist, Grayshott, Hants.

A model of eye, showing the various internal parts and external muscles, wanted, in good condition. State sum wanted to K. NAYLOR, 101 Sinclair Drive, Glasgow.

French specialist seeks apparatus for making rapidly and automatically cachets ready for sale, producing 100 cachets or more at a time. Address offers and details to "M. 47493," c/o Cie. Gle. de Publicité, John F. Jones & Cie, 31 bis Faubourg Montmartre, Paris.

